

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Zoe Dunning Found Guilty of Homosexuality

by Judi Parks

In the first test of the 9th District Court ruling against the ban on gays in the military, Naval Reserve Lieutenant Zoe Dunning was found guilty of homosexuality and was unanimously recommended for an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy on Thursday, June 10. The three-member Navy Administrative Board of Inquiry heard day-long arguments from Gregory A. Bonfiglio, a pro bono attorney with Morrison and Foerster, that it is unconstitutional to discharge Dunning on the grounds that it is illegal for the military to follow illegal or unconstitutional orders.

Defense arguments were based on the Ninth Circuit District Court's ruling in Los Angeles this spring in the case of Naval Petty Officer Keith Meinhold. Meinhold, who was discharged in a process similar to Dunning's, was reinstated on the grounds that prohibiting lesbians and gays to serve in the military was unconstitutional. The Board argued that they were "bound to follow" the military discharge procedure.

At the press conference following the announcement of the decision, holding back tears, Dunning told reporters, "I am obviously very disappointed that they didn't lift the ban. When I came out it was under the assumption that he would fulfill his promise. I am still full of hope that he will do the right thing and he will lift the ban unconditionally."

When asked if she would have acted differently had she known the outcome, Dunning replied "I don't think so. [Clinton's statement that he would lift the ban] was a good part of why I came out, and I relied on that statement. But it was also a very personal decision. It was a matter of being true to who I was and stepping forward and saying who I am. I have no regrets whatsoever."

Dunning declared publicly that she is a lesbian on January 16th at a rally held at

Moffett Field in San Jose by the Bay Area Military Freedom Project. According to Amy Brown, co-counsel, at the law firm of Morrison and Foerster, "Processing for homosexuality is mandatory under the Secretary of the Navy Instruction 1920.6A rule and as evidence one of the things it lists is a statement [by the person] that the member is homosexual. In reality, a lot of times commanders will use discretion and just kind of ignore it, as in the case of people like Keith Meinhold."

"From what I understand, a lot of people knew about him being gay long before he came out in the news and the commander kind of ignored rumors he might have heard and didn't following through in processing. When someone comes out very publicly as Zoe and Keith did, I think it's kind of hard for them to ignore it. Her commander moved very quickly. It was also made very clear in the recommendation for separation that the only evidence of her homosexuality was the one public statement that she made."

Dunning, who received her Masters in Business Administration from Stanford University last weekend, was accompanied by her sister, Captain Amy Dunning, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, who has supported her through this process. "She has put a lot of years in the Navy and we are very proud of her," Captain Dunning told reporters after the press conference.

"The battle is not over," warned Bonfiglio, "No one has ever won one of these administrative review board proceedings. We were fairly optimistic after we closed our case from the fact that the board had spent so long deliberating that we might win this, but we all knew going in that our chances were very slim. We knew that the forum in which we would really get a fair hearing would be the Federal Court and we will be in Federal Court on July 16th if Clinton doesn't lift the ban."▼



Lieutenant Zoe Dunning of the U.S. Naval Reserve (left) and Captain Amy Dunning of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

Budget Battle Begets City Hall Brouhaha

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco AIDS and healthcare activists who took over Mayor Jordan's office of office on Tuesday, June 15, in a morning protest over proposed health service budget cuts were arrested and charged with disturbing the peace and malicious mischief.

The activists were cited and released after they were booked at the Hall of Justice.

Among the activists taken into custody were Mike Shriver; Harvey Milk Club member Eileen Hansen; aide to Supervisor Angela Alioto Jerry Windley; Rebecca Hensler; Colley Windsor; homeless youth worker Jason Bishop; and other healthcare advocates, providers, and patients. Bad Cop/No Donut member Peggy Sue was taken into custody but was not arrested because police were unable to identify her as one of those who occupied the mayor's office.

"I'm doing this because the public health cuts are going to kill people and put more people on the streets," said Henry Hogue, as he waited in plastic handcuffs to be put inside a patrol wagon at City Hall.

The activists expressed anger over Mayor Jordan's proposed 50 percent cuts in the \$181 million in general revenue funds the city gives to the Health Department because of the city's massive budget crises.

The cuts, according to Wendy Ho Iwata, Health Department spokesperson, comprise a \$110 million reduction in the department's proposed \$655 million budget — and threaten the city with the loss of \$45 million in federal



Mike Shriver waves his shoe as demonstrators stage a sit-in June 15 in Mayor Jordan's office to protest health budget cuts.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

AIDS funds because of the budget reduction.

According to Iwata, more than 130,000 outpatient care visits throughout the health-care system, including San Francisco General Hospital, will be eliminated. Also, 300 residential care beds at Laguna Honda, the city's geriatric and skilled nursing care facility, will be eliminated.

Iwata told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the proposed cuts "will severely impact critical services for people with

AIDS."

The activists also expressed concern that four of eight primary care health clinics, rape treatment services for women, and one half of all mental health and one third of all substance abuse service clients will find themselves without treatment because of the cuts.

"I understand the concerns expressed by ACT UP and a coalition of groups in my office this afternoon. I, too,

(Continued on page 32)

Bruce Lee Case Finally Resolved

by Dennis Conkin

HIV-positive tattoo artist Wayne Bruce Lee pleaded guilty to charges of misdemeanor battery and was sentenced to six months in County Jail with no probation on June 15 in San Francisco Municipal Court.

However, since Lee spent four months in jail while awaiting trial on charges that he intentionally spattered four police officers with his blood in a controversial case stemming from an October 1992 suicide attempt, he was credited with time served and will not have to go back to jail.

Originally charged with four counts of assault, Lee was later charged with the attempted murder of the officers who intervened in his suicide attempt, thereby coming in contact with his blood as they tried to subdue him.

The attempted murder charges were dismissed for lack of evidence earlier this year by a Superior Court judge, after which the District Attorney's office re-filed the assault charges against him.

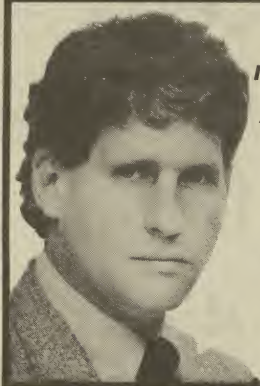
Lee's case drew support from AIDS activists and service groups, including ACT UP and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Activists

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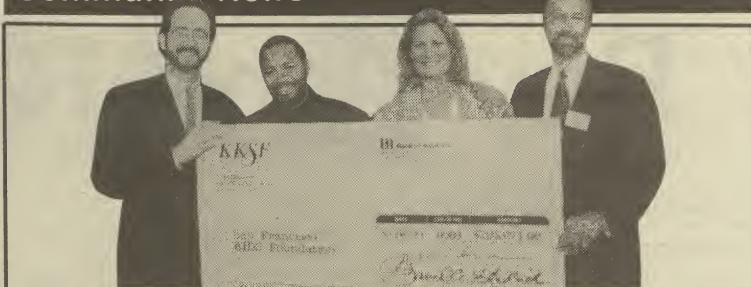
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Community News



Music against AIDS

KKSF's Sampler for AIDS Relief, Volume 3 has raised \$205,071 so far for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Alameda AIDS Services Organization. Pictured above are Steve Feinstein, KKSF program director (left); Najee, recording artist; Pat Christen, executive director of the AIDS Foundation; and David Kendrick, KKSF general manager.

East Bay Attack Leads To Hate Crime Lawsuit

by Dennis Conkin

An East Bay gay man who was maced and assaulted in an anti-gay attack on Memorial Day — while taking down his American flag, no less — has filed the nation's first "hate crime" lawsuit following a U.S. Supreme Court decision that upholds the constitutionality of state crimes laws.

The lawsuit seeks \$1 million in emotional and punitive damages and \$25,000 in penalty damages under the provisions of the Ralph Act, California's hate crimes law that provides civil penalties and criminal enhancements for felony crimes committed because of anti-gay bias.

Robert Ross (no relation to the publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter*) was allegedly maced and assaulted on the front lawn of his Concord, California home by the son-in-law of a next door neighbor.

The assailant in the attack is also facing felony criminal prosecution in the attack, according to Ross's attorney Paul Wotman.

"I was taking down the flag and I heard someone yelling. Gilbert Lucero [the alleged assailant] was standing

in the middle of his driveway yelling that he wanted me to come over," Ross said.

But as Ross approached, he alleges, Lucero put up a fighting stance, ordered him to cross the property line — and then pulled a can of mace out of his back pocket and began spraying him in the face and eyes with the chemical.

"I couldn't breathe. I couldn't see. I couldn't do anything," Ross said.

"He followed me across my yard. I got into the garage where I lifted up a broom trying to protect myself but he sprayed me again in the eyes. I was stunned and disoriented. I yelled for my lover that I was being attacked and to call 911," Ross said.

Ross alleges that after he made his escape into the house, he headed into the kitchen, where he washed his eyes out in the kitchen sink — only to look up and see Lucero from a kitchen window, brandishing a golf club in one hand and mace in the other and yelling from the middle of the driveway that the attack wasn't over.

In an attempt to garner support for his anti-gay attack, Lucero, according to Wotman, continued to verbally abuse and threaten Ross by

yelling to other neighbors in the area, "Do you know you have faggots living here, how do you like having sick faggots living here," according to the lawsuit.

Police were called to the scene and Lucero was arrested after Ross made a citizen's arrest.

Ross also filed his lawsuit under protections of the Concord Human Relations Ordinance, enacted in 1991, that ban harassment on the basis of sexual orientation. The ordinance was attacked by right-wing religious fundamentalists and repealed by the Traditional Values Coalition-sponsored Measure M.

Measure M, which outlawed ordinances protecting gays against discrimination, was later ruled unconstitutional under state constitution equal protection clauses.

A June 11 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court determined that state hate crime laws are not unconstitutional as a violation of free speech, and that speech which accompanies violence is part of the violent act and not protected under First Amendment rights. Lower court rulings had cast doubt on the constitutionality of hate crime laws in the past year. ▼

ASPA La Vista:

AIDS Service Providers To Quit

by Rene M. Astudillo

The AIDS Service Providers Association (ASPA), a membership organization of over 130 agencies that provide HIV services in Northern California, will fold on June 30, 1993.

ASPA has provided leadership in support of community responses to the AIDS epidemic, by linking HIV educators and service providers with resources and support. It has member agencies in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Solano, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Monterey, San Francisco, and Santa Cruz.

In announcing the closure of ASPA, its board of directors said that the difficult decision was prompted by the "inability to attract reliable operating support," and the "difficulty the organization has had in developing programs that made significant contributions to the fight against AIDS."

According to board president Douglas Holloway, a recent survey on the organization's programs and future direction sent out to its member agencies brought in a disappointing 20 percent return. While the returned surveys showed support for ASPA's current projects, there was virtually no support for the organization's proposed programs, or for further growth.

ASPA's predicament is very much like those currently experienced by many of its member agencies, many of which are threatened by federal, state, and local budget cuts. The programs of these agencies, especially the smaller, community-based organizations, are being scrutinized for possible "duplication of services."

In San Francisco alone, the AIDS Office of the San Francisco Department of Public Health oversees over 160 contracts with community-based organizations, totalling some \$41 million in funding for

HIV health care, prevention, and research. In recent months, the AIDS Office has been meeting with representatives of these organizations to seek their input on possible consolidation of HIV services in the city.

Two of the more significant projects undertaken by ASPA are its HIV Referral Directory and newsletter. It hopes to find other organizations that will continue these projects. The Bay Area HIV Advocacy Network (BAHAN), ASPA's collaborative public policy project with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, will continue to operate under SFAF's policy department. The SFAF has also agreed to offer support to another ASPA project, the Coalition on HIV and Prisons.

The most recent project of ASPA, the AIDS Volunteer Clearinghouse of Alameda County, will continue to operate with the Alameda Volunteer Center as its fiscal agent. ▼

Leal's First Meeting With the Community

by Judi Parks

New San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal wasted no time getting acquainted with the gay community's fiscal and political agendas, when she joined Carole Migden, Tom Ammann, and Angie Fa at a meeting of the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance spring retreat, June 6, the day before she was sworn in to fill the Board of Supervisors seat vacated by Roberta Achtenberg.

The Alliance, California's largest lesbian and gay political action committee, spent the day planning their political agenda for the 1993-94 year. The organization raises money to support gay and lesbian political candidates, elected officials, and strong supporters of gay and lesbian issues. It contributed to the fight against the Oregon and Colorado anti-gay initiatives in 1992, and currently works with political leaders in Marin County to establish a lesbian and gay political organization in the county this year.

Recently, it co-sponsored a fundraising event for gay candidate John Laird and helped raise approximately \$10,000 in his bid for an assembly seat. During a 15-month period between January 1992 to March 1993, the committee directly raised \$290,000, which does not include checks made out directly to candidates at events such as the Laird fundraiser.

A time for introductions

After introducing herself, Leal spoke briefly telling those attending the retreat that she was really there to listen and hear the priorities and objectives of The Alliance in the coming year. She did, however, discuss her fiscal philosophy, saying, "Often out of crisis comes opportunity, and the challenge is to use this to create greater efficiency, not only in the health care area, but in all areas of San Francisco government."

Leal will quickly get a chance to put her professional skills from the private sector as a health care-cost management executive into practice. President of the Board, Supervisor Angela Aliota, announced the night of June 9 that Leal has been appointed to the Health, Public Safety and Environment Committee, where she will be expected to bring her fiscal expertise to preserve the important elements in San Francisco's health care system, while recognizing that the budget crisis may require cuts across the board.

Co-chair Ann McCoy explained to the *Bay Area Reporter*, "Historically we invite gay and lesbian leaders to our retreat and ask them to give their opinions about what the important issues are going to be in the upcoming year: what will be facing, and what do we need to prepare for. It is really crucial that we be proactive rather than reactive."

Angie Fa and Tom Ammann prioritized the school board campaigns in San Francisco and Fremont. Fa stressed that if the voucher system supported by Governor

Wilson, giving parents state money to send children to private schools, go into effect, we would be supporting right-wing schools that teach bigotry and hatred toward lesbian and gay people.

"The same man who would dismantling lesbian and gay civil rights is also trying to dismantle public education in the state of California by placing the voucher initiative on the ballot," she said. "The lesbian and gay community needs to send him a strong message that we won't tolerate our tax money going to fund homophobic, religious schools."

Carole Migden discussed the various seats opening up in the next few years, including the 1994 Board of Supervisors seat being vacated by Bill Maher; Mayor Jordan's seat in 1995; and Assembly seats that are now held by



Supervisor Susan Leal (left) makes friends at the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance spring retreat. (Photo: Judi Parks)

Willie Brown, Milton Marks and John Burton, all of which will be open in 1996.

According to Migden's statistics, Brown's district is 30 percent gay, Marks' is 20 percent, and Burton's is 10 percent. Migden drew a laugh during the serious discussion when she ironically commented that "We have a gay as-

sembly district, not because the Democrats shaped it for us, but because Republican judges think it's fair." Migden has also lead the watch for anti-gay initiatives and reported there are none brewing right now that we know of.

Chris Bowman, who introduced himself as the only Re-

publican in the room, told Leal that there were many elements in the gay and lesbian community that were concerned about business and who supported a moderate approach.

Issues to watch out for

Some of the other issues being discussed as priorities in the upcoming year, according to McCoy, are statewide domestic partners legislation and bridge building within the lesbian and gay community, as well as outside to the broader community.

"We would like to see if we can form a partnership with Southern California lesbian and gay organizations to devise a statewide strategy," said McCoy.

The Alliance is also interested in helping other Northern California regions become politically organized, particularly to combat the right-wing focus on the school boards. It is prepared to help as a catalyst, with idea people or finding seed money.

The Alliance will celebrate its 10th anniversary at its annual dinner dance on November 6. ▼

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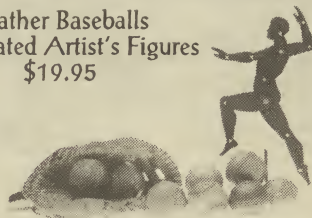
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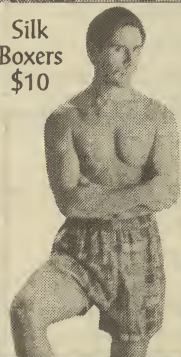
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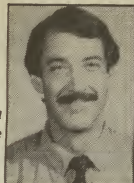
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Community News



Neighbor to Neighbor, a San Francisco based group calling for a single payer national health care plan, tried to buy air time from Channel 5. The station refused to run the ad.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

S.F. Human Rights Commission Slated for 35 Percent Budget Cut

by Dennis Conkin

The City's Human Rights Commission's ability to monitor, mediate, and enforce local ordinances prohibiting discrimination based on HIV status and sexual orientation has been seriously threatened by the announcement that the department's annual \$1.5 million budget is slated for a 35 percent cut.

The \$556,000 reduction proposed by the Mayor's Budget Office cut 39 percent deeper than the estimated \$400,000 originally proposed in the mayor's budget summary originally delivered to the Board of Supervisors.

"The cuts would seriously jeopardize the agency's ability to monitor and enforce local ordinances prohibiting sexual orientation and HIV discrimination," said HRC AIDS discrimination attorney Cynthia Goldstein.

Goldstein is one of two staffers in the agency's ostensibly three-person lesbian and gay unit: the third position — unit supervisor — has been un-filled since the 1992 departure

of attorney Norm Nickens, who transferred to another city department.

The cuts would also affect the ability of the agency to monitor and enforce local laws created to give minority- and women-owned businesses a fair shake in bidding for city contracts.

Goldstein told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the proposed cuts for the department would require the agency to lay off staffers. He said the services of the unit are "needed now more than ever" because of a recent state Supreme Court decision not to review a Los Angeles Appeals Court ruling that tossed out that city's anti-gay bias laws.

Similar challenges are being made against local gay rights protections, and Goldstein says that the slated budget cuts would have affected the ability of the agency to provide administrative remedies and mediation in anti-gay bias and HIV complaints brought to it by citizens.

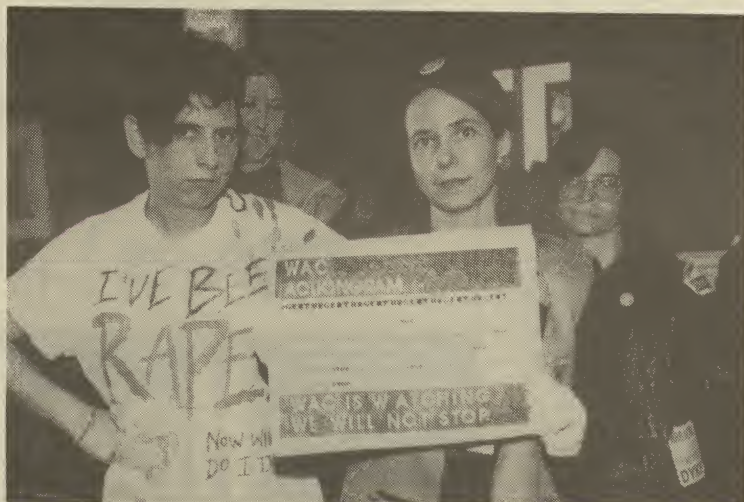
"It's really important that the lesbian and gay communi-

ty know about the work of the agency and how essential it is," said Lester Olmsted-Rose, an aide to Supervisor Angela Alioto.

Olmsted-Rose told the *B.A.R.* that the agency provides a diverse range of discrimination enforcement and mediation services, and said massive budget cuts will mean there will not be enough staff to provide enforcement of anti-discrimination laws.

"All the needs of various communities would be pitted against each other in the department, in order to make sure the communities were adequately represented. I don't know why people in the mayor's office wanted to do that," he said.

According to Mayor Jordan's office, the cuts will be at least partially offset by the disbursement of surplus money from the Retirement Board's pension fund overpayments. Reportedly, those funds will be added to the city's general fund and earmarked for the Human Rights Commission. ▼



Womens Action Coalition delivers an "Actiongram" to Mayor Jordan opposing cuts in funding for rape crisis centers.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Berkeley Needle Exchange Activist Wins Small Victory

by Dennis Conkin

A May 18 decision by a state Court of Appeals, allowing Berkeley needle exchange activist Scott Halem to use a "necessity defense" in his trial for illegal possession of hypodermic needles, has been appealed to the California State Supreme Court.

A petition for review of the decision by the First District Court of Appeal in San Francisco was filed by Assistant Alameda County District Attorney Mike Roemer.

The Court of Appeal overturned, by 2-1, an Alameda Superior Court ruling that Halem could not argue that in order to control the spread of AIDS, it was necessary to break California law by distributing clean syringes in exchange for used — and possibly HIV-contaminated — syringes.

Roemer told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the ACDA pe-

tioned the Supreme Court for a review of the decision, arguing that "there is no statutory authorization for the use of a necessity defense."

"There will be a trial, either way," Roemer said. "If the Supreme Court denies the petition for review, Mr. Halem will be allowed to use the so-called necessity defense."

Roemer said the Court of Appeals made its ruling on a "very technical point of law" unrelated to the issue of needle exchange: whether a District Attorney has the authority to appeal a decision of a Municipal Court concerning the admission of evidence to a Superior Court.

But a majority on the Appeals Court, according to Bill Simpich, Halem's attorney, said the necessity defense was valid, although they did not offer a legal opinion on the merits of the case.

"I'm doing what I am do-

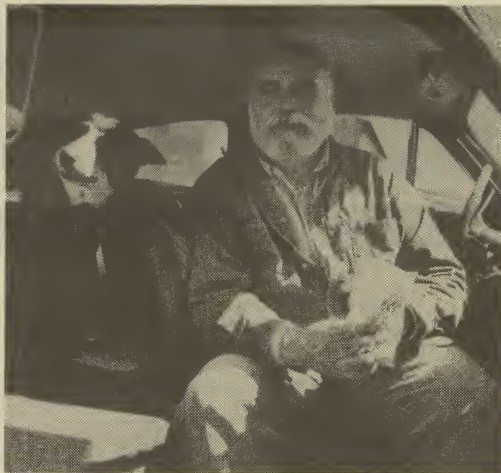
ing because there is a need. I feel vindicated by the Court of Appeals decision," Halem told the *B.A.R.* "It's the only logical decision that could have been made."

Halem, a co-founder of the Berkeley Needle Exchange and a founder of the Alameda County Needle Exchange, was arrested in Berkeley in July for distributing needles. An initial trial, on the charges of violating a law that prohibits the possession of syringes without a prescription, resulted in a hung jury.

According to Halem, an estimated 2,000 of the 20,000 injection drug users in Alameda County are HIV-positive.

Halem and ACE exchange distribute an estimated 1,200 syringes a week in West Oakland, and about 250 a week at a new site in East Oakland.

"The Oakland police department is pretty much leaving us alone. We have an information table with AIDS



Scott Halem, founder of Berkeley Needle Exchange, and his dog, George, provide clean needles in Oakland. (Photo: Judi Parks)

prevention literature and referral information about drug detox," Halem said. "We also give out paper bags that contact bleach, alcohol wipes, condoms, and cotton balls."

"The trial is scheduled for October, but I feel it's a political prosecution. Alameda County District Attorney John

Needham is sending the wrong message but he's determined to prosecute this case to the fullest extent to the law," Halem said.

Roemer said that because there is no legislative authorization supporting a necessity defense, it should not be allowed in any case. ▼

Gay Man Heads Local Vets' Agency

by Dennis Conkin

While the U.S. military may oppose lesbian and gay service members, Swords to Plowshares, a renowned San Francisco agency that serves homeless and troubled veterans, has appointed a gay man as the president of its board of directors.

"I'm very happy and pleased. I'm looking forward to working with the agency. Our biggest job right now is to over the cuts in the city's Health Department budget that covers one of our programs," said Bob Hawes.

The agency's cornerstone, its human services program, facing the city's budget axe, provides human services including substance abuse, mental health, and housing services to an estimated 750 veterans each month through a \$200,000 annual contract. The agency has an annual budget of \$1.2 million.

Founded in 1974, the community-based group provides human services, including outreach to veterans on the street or who are incarcerated or hospitalized; legal services and advocacy regarding veterans benefits or discharges issues; employment and training; and other programs.

Hawes, an outspoken advocate for the needs of veterans, said that society ignores the needs of military veterans — and that the cost in human lives — is tragic.

"We have to help memorialize those that are named in the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial] wall, but we have to help the living," Hawes said.

Hawes said that veterans have "enormous problems" coping with the huge bureaucracy of the Veterans' Administration, and that the relationship between the federal

agency and smaller service organizations like Swords have often been problematic.

"One of the things that I hope to accomplish is much more coordination and cooperation with the Veteran's Administration," he said.

Hawes told the *Bay Area Reporter* that smaller service groups are able to provide human services to vets with greater efficiency and more directly tailored to individuals than are large bureaucracies.

Many Swords clients are Vietnam veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, but the agency services are available to any veteran who needs them.

The majority of Swords clients are minorities, have been unemployed for three or more years, and suffer from physical, mental, and drug or alcohol programs.

The agency is currently seeking grant assistance from the 1993 AIDS Walk, to hire an HIV coordinator to provide direct case management services to veterans with HIV disease.

Hawes said that he doesn't think that being gay has much to do with his appointment as the board president but he says the agency is gay-positive and "deals with a lot of gay veterans."

Hawes told the *B.A.R.* he is proud of the stand the organization took in January supporting lesbians and gays gays in the military — but said that Swords had been providing services to gay veterans since it began — including many combat veterans who had outstanding military service records but who received less than honorable discharges.

Hawes said the agency, which recently received a \$1 million grant from the federal

Department of Housing and Urban Development to purchase two residential sites for homeless veterans, does not support a compromise on the issue.

America has a responsibility to its veterans, Hawes said, but says the tremendous needs of veterans are usually ignored.

"We're very good at

rhetoric on Memorial Day and on Veteran's Day and those types of things, but the rest of the year society wants to shunt the problems of veterans aside," he said. ▼

RSVP GAY CRUISES



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Editorial

A Good First Step for Leal

Welcome, once again, to our newest member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Susan Leal. Almost immediately after she assumed the office held by Roberta Achtenberg, she was forced to make a difficult decision: whether to support a pay raise for city workers in the midst of a budget disaster.

We note with satisfaction that she lived up to her reputation as a fiscally responsible businesswoman and voted against the pay raise.

We don't intend to go into the pros and cons of whether the city's workers — or, indeed, all workers — deserve more than they currently get in their pay packets, so please do not flood our office with mail about balancing the budget on the backs of the poor. With the money situation the way it is, we know the backs of a great many people are going to be weighed down with unhappy cutbacks. Regrettably, we do not believe the city can afford that pay raise, particularly when it is so easy to foresee hundreds of people with mental illness flooding the sidewalks, hundreds of people with AIDS perhaps dying in the gutters, and millions of — like it or not, extremely important — visitors fleeing in abject horror.

Fiscal responsibility, as opposed to the reactionary "fiscal conservatism," is a good quality to have now that we are all trying to pay for the recklessness of the go-go '80s and Ronald Reagan's gift of the American economy to his Wall Street buddies. (Why is it that Michael Milken can pay a billion dollars in fines and still have enough left over to go into a producing partnership with Michael Jackson, when the state in which he lives cannot seem to afford even basic necessities? The answer, again, is Reagan, to whom we are very sure history will not be kind — and nor should it be.)

Anyway, the point is, the state doesn't have any money, so it's acting like a bully demanding lunch money from smaller kids — in this case, cities, town, and counties — so the city is broke. That being the way it is, like it or not, we are glad to see both lesbian supervisors were moved to vote with the reality, and not the way we all wish it could be.

Thank you, Susan Leal; thank you, Carole Migden.

A Questionable Step for Clinton

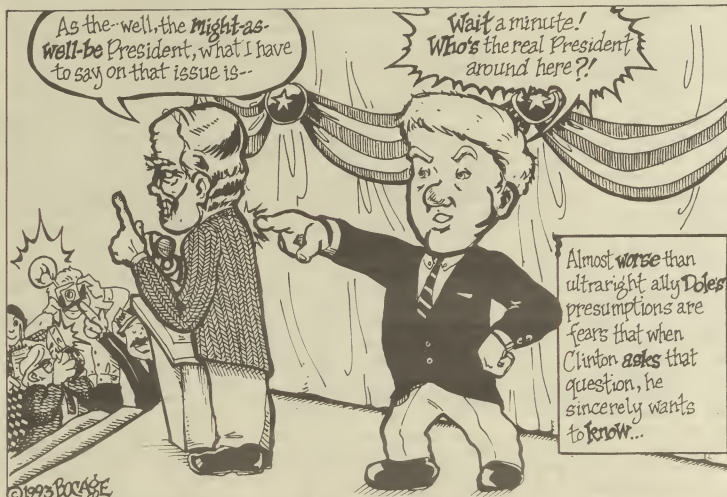
Speaking of decision-makers, we are reserving judgement on Ruth Ginsburg, Clinton's nominee to the Supreme Court. We are disgusted that in the one case where we know she had a chance to prove her commitment to civil rights to lesbians and gays, she dropped the ball: she voted to dismiss a case brought by a gay sailor who was being bounced from the Navy. Was the case really beneath her attention? Maybe to her, but ask that sailor. Perhaps, even worse, she found it beneath her contempt.

For all her moving words about a day when daughters are as highly prized as sons, she doesn't seem to get that lesbian daughters and gay sons are routinely, systematically, institutionally informed again and again that they are valueless — and that her job is to do something about that discrimination.

We are also horrified that Robert Dole and Orrin Hatch — speaking of beneath contempt — are so delighted with her nomination. Clinton doesn't seem to know what his job is, either: to routinely make dolts such as Dole angry.

There is a long history of Supreme Court justices who have been installed by one party or the other, only to become a pain in the ass to their benefactors: ask Nixon about it. We (unfortunately) believe Goldberg may be a thorn in the left wing of America for some time. In this instance, at least, we hope we are wrong, and would much rather be happy than right.

One last word about Robert Dole: why is he acting so much like he is president? Is it because Clinton is acting increasingly less like one? The Guinier debacle made us more than angry: it was sickening, and we hope we never see that kind of behavior on the part of this president — or any other — ever again. ▼



Guest Opinion

Our Military Has Much Bigger Problems Than Lesbian and Gays

Reprinted from *Bay Windows*, Boston

Although many U.S. military leaders are fond of saying that allowing open lesbians and gay men in the military will reduce the quality of the people who thereafter sign up for the armed services, current events suggest that the men who now serve aren't that brave or intelligent to begin with.

First we had the military brass suggesting that having gay men in foxholes and on submarines and battleships will destroy this country's combat readiness, fueling the notion that all our enemies need do to win a military confrontation with us is put out Richard Simmons and Martina Navratilova to blow kisses at our men and women in uniform. It would seem that our side would be so flummoxed they would be likely to kill each other in the hail of confused mortar fire that would follow.

Not very reassuring for a culture that prides itself on being tough.

Then we had Marine Colonel Fred Peck revealing in Senate testimony that he would not want his son Scott going into battle because his comrades in arms would likely kill him for being gay.

So much for the democratic ideals and laws that our military is supposed to protect.

Then we had the case of gay sailor Allen Schindler, who was killed in Japan by one of his fellow shipmates, Terry Helvey — a steroid-pumping bully of a troublemaker whose idea of a good time was to harass others on his ship, the *U.S.S. Belleau Wood*. The Naval Investigative Service was in the process of covering up the investigation until the *Pacific Stars and Stripes*, a military newspaper, got

involved.

So much for good order, discipline, and honor.

Now word comes that a U.S. Marine is being held in Japan for allegedly killing a Japanese man who "grabbed him by the butt." The mother of Marine Pfc. Christopher Glidden says her son just "snapped" when Seiyu Yokata made an unwanted pass at him. Besides apparently being a hypersensitive group of guys, Marines apparently feel the need to kill over the little indignities straight men have been heaping on women for centuries.

The Marines. The Few. The Proud. The Mentally Unstable.

We don't mean to make fun of serious situations, but can you believe these guys? Exactly what principles do people who join the military think they might lose their lives over?

It would appear the armed forces don't have any problems that can't be cured by making all new recruits and active duty military personnel read the Bill of Rights.

(They also might try discharging all the apparent nut cases they're so proud of now who are on active duty.)

Senator Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts hit the issue dead-on when he told his colleagues on the Senate Armed Services the following:

"Military efficiency exists for the sake of liberty, not for its own sake — and we must never forget that."

"The purpose of our armed forces is not simply to defend a piece of geography, but to protect a set of ideas and ideals. A military that denies those ideals defeats its own most basic purpose." ▼

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Letters

Letter From Broad Nation

We, the undersigned women, put forth this challenge. We're sick of the mainstream, appeasement-based, business-as-usual brand of feminism that has passed itself off as the voice of women in this country.

No more Dianne Feinsteins, who will parrot male politicians, bemoaning base closures because they hurt our military-centered economy. No more Nancy Pelosi, who will bend themselves into a pretzel trying to explain the absence of a "liberal" president too cowardly to show up at a national queer rights march. No more Gloria Steinems, who for years will date the likes of right-wing criminal Stanley J. Pottinger — and even Henry Kissinger — with one hand and then carry the leading torch for women's rights with the other. No more!

Women are dying of breast cancer, cervical cancer, environmental illnesses, domestic violence, rape, poverty, and AIDS in record numbers. The war on women isn't just some hysterical fantasy. It's real, it's ugly, and guess what? — being good girls won't make it go away.

Appeasement equals death.

No more "constructive engagement" with the patriarchy. No more illusions about the good intentions of our male "friends."

No more hypocritical female sellouts more interested in their connections and bank accounts than ending the horror of being a woman in this country. No more! It's going to stop.

There is only one strategy: Stop smiling and fight back!!

Hit 'em where it hurts.

We offer a means of implementing this strategy. This is our challenge. We are a group of women committed in the queer national style of confrontational politics. We are a new organization of women devoted primarily to women's issues. We are an "exclusive club" of women who revel in giving white males nightmares at night. We're loud, we're in your face, and we won't shut up. We are women who will get what we want!

There is a nation of women waiting to move. There is a nation of women millions strong and thousands of miles across.

Our nation is vast, our nation is strong, our nation is broad. Our nation threatens males, confuses males, and takes back the words males have used to reduce us into jokes and playthings. We are a nation of women who fight to win.

We are Broad Nation!

Join us. If you think this is a joke, write us and find out about the power of a joke turned back on itself. Write us and find out who the joke is really on. No male can hack the power of a women's nation mobilized. Can you hack the ideological nuances of our name and premise?

For the sake of the lives of women and the love of women, it's time to scream. We are Broad Nation! Write us. Whether you do or don't, you will be hearing from us.

Naomi Adelman, Lisa Maddox, Diedre Clay
Angela Yee, Pat Hutchins; Broad Nation
1032 Irving Street, Box 820
San Francisco 94122

Is "Fragging" Dept. of Defense Policy?

The following letter was sent to President and Commander-in-Chief of U.S. Armed Forces Bill Clinton, Washington, D.C.:

Colonel Peck, USMC, in his statements to the Senate Armed Services Committee about gays in the military, noted that "fratricide is something that exists out there [in the battlefield]." His preceding comments "I'm not saying that's right or wrong" clearly indicates that Col. Peck does not take issue with the concept of fragging (killing one's countrymen).

I was disappointed that Secretary of Defense Aspin did not reprimand Col. Peck for advocating the killing of gay and lesbian service members. It is important that both Col. Peck and the Commandant of the Marine Corps both clarify that it is *wrong* to kill your fellow Marine on the battlefield. A Department of Defense statement against "fragging" should be issued as a matter of policy.

By failing to correct the public statement of a USMC representative in Congress on such a volatile issue, it must be presumed that fragging gays and lesbians is Marine Corps policy. One of my greatest concerns is that "fragging" gay and lesbian service members may be construed as Marine Corps policy by service members unless CMC issues an ALMAR (All Marines Bulletin) against such practices.

As a Marine Corps Reserve infantry officer, such actions are reprehensible to me and other moral members of modern civilized American society. I fear for those honorable men and women who can't "come out" because their careers would be destroyed. Now, they must fear for their very lives. Please contact General Mundy and request a clarification of the Marine Corps policy about "fragging" gays and lesbians. Also, take the time to iterate to Secretary Aspin that it is OK for Col. Peck to say "It is wrong to kill your countrymen." It is no wonder young men like Allen Schindler are killed when senior military officers fail to lead by example. Please encourage our military leaders to set a "moral" example to our young troops.

Philip K. Adams, Captain
US Marine Corps Reserve
Fremont, CA

The Importance of Writing Letters

I have just come across a book which should be in the library of every gay and lesbian activist. It's called *The U.S. Congress Handbook*, and it contains a wealth of information, including biographies of every member of Congress, how to write to them, their FAX numbers, committee assignments, etc. It is published by U.S. Congress Handbook, P.O. Box 566, McLean, VA 22101, (703) 356-3572, FAX (703) 760-0942. The cost is \$8.95 per book, add \$0.75 if you want the spiral bound edition (much more durable), plus \$2.00 shipping and handling. Virginia residents add 4.5 percent sales tax.

If you want to be invoiced, add another \$2.50; otherwise send a check with your order. They don't take VISA or Mastercard. They also print mailing labels for all members of Congress, which could be very useful in mass lobbying efforts.

Many of the members of Congress lobbied during the March on Washington said: "Gay people don't write letters," and that letters are of prime importance in swaying their opinions. The fundies can generate thousands; with this book available now, we don't have an excuse.

Along the same line, it would be helpful when you print stories about things our enemies (or our friends) have done, if you would print their addresses and phones in the stories as a matter of course. It usually takes a minimum of research to locate them (except for the fundies, who are harder to find than a Christian in their churches), and it would facilitate our responding to them.

It is particularly important to let our friends know that we support them (something we often forget to do); we probably will not change our enemies' minds, but they need to hear from us.

Bud Clark
San Diego, CA

Thanks for Making Achtenberg Send-off Successful

On behalf of Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA), we would like to thank all who helped make the June 1 Castro St. Party celebrating Roberta Achtenberg's confirmation as Assistant Secretary for HUD such a wonderful community celebration.

We were proud to co-sponsor this event along with the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance and while this was our first partnership with The Alliance, we certainly hope that it will not be the last. Ann McCoy and Don Sloan, the Alliance co-chairs, did everything they possibly could to assist us with the sometimes overwhelming tasks of organizing and publicizing such an event.

Gilbert Baker is a phenomenal producer. We really can't thank him and his stage crew enough for all their work. Laura Irving and Tom Ammann also did a fabulous job as co-emcees.

Jean-Paul Samaha of Supervisor Terence Hallinan's office was incredibly helpful in arranging the necessary permits and approvals from the Board of Supervisors, MUNI, the Police Department and other city agencies.

Paul Morabito opened up his Castro Village Pharmacy to us as a place to have the event speakers meet and wait for the beginning of the program.

We are very grateful to our volunteers who helped publicize this street party by distributing flyers and posters. LGADDA members Raymond Clark, Mary Midgett, David Simmons, Michael Sydnor, Norm Nickens and Donald Tarver, and our friends Dennis Seely, Olivia, Michael Sears and Roger Case responded immediately when asked to sacrifice part of their holiday weekend to perform unbelievable tasks. We are also grateful to those community "angels" who, in addition to McCoy and Sloan, contributed the necessary financial backing: Paul Melbostad, Bob Dockendorff, LeeAnn Prifti, Michael Sears, Mark Dunlop, Dana Van Gorder and Friends of Carole Migden.

Community United Against Violence proved once again to be an invaluable asset.

The person most deserving of our thanks is the person who was most responsible for conceiving, planning and producing this festivity: Byron McQuarters, the event organizer. Byron's vision and can-do spirit convinced all of us that the idea of producing an outdoor public celebration of Roberta Achtenberg's confirmation was not only right and noble, but achievable.

Finally, we must thank the community who supported this event and joined in the celebration. We showed the world our pride in each other's achievements and contributions and that we can come together to show our appreciation of those lesbian sisters and gay brothers who dedicate their lives to making this world a better, safer, fairer place to live. For one night, we stood united in one purpose and one theme: good-bye and good luck, Roberta, we'll miss you and wish you well. Many, many thanks to all who came to express their thanks to Roberta for her years of public service to our city and for going on to serve our nation.

Gwenn Craig and Randy Miller, Co-Chairs
Lesbians & Gays of African Descent for
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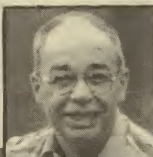
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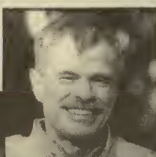


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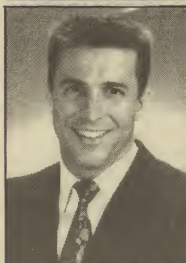
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Letters

He's The Queerest

I support the word "queer" because it applies to me
in many, many ways.

I am queer because when most gays were for Viet
Nam, I was against it. My reasons are not anyone's
business.

I am queer because I was outside with the police
captain at Stonewall to make sure things didn't get
brutal. It helped that I owned the largest store in the
Village at that time — Temptations.

I am queer because a sign in that store said during
Watergate: "No Nixon Fascist Supporters or Their
Money Welcome at This Store."

I am queer because I believe in soul inception, at
conception; however I am pro-choice.

I am queer because I always want to discuss politics
and religion.

I am queer because I am not a believer in Jesus
Christ. I believe in the God of the 18th Dynasty of
Egypt.

I am queer because when I owned my store, The
Plantation, in the Castro, I thought we could buy drugs
but not be affected by it. There was drug dealing go-
ing on and that's why I left.

I am queer because I got out of Viet Nam because
I was gay and of course no shame to me, — I kept my
honour intact.

I am queer because I wanted gays to have that right
in the light of the rise of fascism.

I am queer because I have never had sex with a
woman.

I am queer because I think things are going to get
worse before they get better.

John Schluter
Queerest of the Queers
San Francisco

Too Ballsy of Her for Him

I find the recent book review entitled "Ball Tales"
by Deborah Peifer to be offensive and insulting.

Ms. Peifer seemed to forget the object was to review
a book rather than ridicule a body part that she will
never have and of which she obviously has no
understanding.

While I am receptive to a humorous review, Ms.
Peifer is unable to overcome her own prejudice(s) and
instead writes an attack on men under the pretense
of writing a book review.

What on earth possessed the *Bay Area Reporter*
editor(s) having a man-hating lesbian write about male
body parts? Are you inviting a misogynist to ridicule
women's bodies in your next issue?

And having exhausted her intellect after several
paragraphs on testicles, she turns her hatred and en-
vy to the penis. She resents the male erection and sees
in every column and spire a symbol of the patriarchy.
Oh please!

Deborah Peifer's nasty little diatribe — and it was
a nasty little diatribe — only contributes to the feel-
ings of separation that already pull our community
apart. I don't care so much that Ms. Peifer hates men,
but I question the B.A.R. providing a forum for her
bitterness.

Ray Bridges
San Francisco

Ed. Note: There's a wise old saying that goes
something like "Would that God the gift would give
us, to see ourselves as others see us." Viewed in the
light of this age-old refrain, some might see Ms.
Peifer's review as a gift from God.

Dyke Rising

This dyke is rising up in a (probably hysterical, ir-
rational, menstrual) rage at you, Mr. Sterling. I don't
know why any of us even bother to read these upper-
middle class white assimilationist men's papers that
pretend to address the entire community, but we do.
Reading the Letters section is a guaranteed reminder
that being gay doesn't automatically make you smart,
or aware. In fact, I encounter far more blatant sexism,
racism and classism in this so-called community than
anywhere else.

I agree with Sterling that a person acquainted with
said testicles might be better suited to review such a
book (although it was my impression that the book
didn't take itself as seriously as Sterling seemed to).
But his letter was merely a pretext for name-calling.
Is there a need to call us "holes," or state that we re-
quire "artificial penises" for "satisfaction"? The book
reviewer in question made no such remarks. She
didn't talk about the anus as an "artificial vagina," or
speak of "disgust." The review was light and
humorous, as was the book in question. Again, I see
little point in even sending this letter to such a paper
to be read by such people. But I am indescribably
disgusted by the repeated examples of outright dis-
crimination and prejudice I see almost daily. Don't
flatter yourselves by thinking we want in on your sorry
little boys' club. But I (wrongly) expect not to be
treated as less than human merely because you can
see no sexual purpose in my unvarying, ugly hole.

Michaela Grey
San Francisco

The Year of the Ball-Gazer

The question of how many types of homosexuals
there are has recently become a topic of some contro-
versy. President Clinton recently irked gays when he
alluded to "the gay lifestyle," as though all gays every-
where shared exactly the same lifestyle, although he
did not specify exactly what this lifestyle entails. Tan-
ning salons? Sunday brunch?

Jesse Helms, for his part, has identified two types
of lesbians. These are the less objectionable garden-
variety lesbians and then there are the damn lesbians.
Meanwhile in the letters to the editor sections of gay
newspapers a controversy rages over whether we
should call ourselves gays or queers. Clearly, the
garden-variety homos prefer the word gay, while those
Jesse Helms would damn revel in the name queer.

Then there is the ongoing controversy over gazing
in the military. There are two types of men in the
military, ball-walkers and ball-gazers. The ball-
walkers enjoy strolling around in a manly fashion with
their testicles hanging out of their open flies or dangle-
ing from their shorts. The ball-gazers love to look long-
ingly at the aforementioned testicles on display. Logic
dictates that the ball-walkers and the ball-gazers
should have a happy, symbiotic relationship, but un-
fortunately logic doesn't enter into it. As the congres-
sional hearings made clear, manly men find it impos-
sible to engage in homoerotic male bonding rituals such
as ball-walking unless they can pretend it isn't
homoerotic.

Fortunately, President Clinton and Congressman
Barney Frank have come up with a great compromise.
Ball-gazers will be allowed to serve in the military as
long as they are extremely surreptitious in their gaz-
ing activities and don't engage in excessive dick lather-
ing or soap dropping in shower room situations. In
other words, they can be gay but not queer.

Leonard Itney
San Francisco

Time for the Blue Lights Again

For the fifth year now, the BlueLights Campaign has
asked local merchants to display our window cards
in their homes and places of business as a way of
reaching the many throngs of visitors that descend
upon San Francisco in the summertime just prior to
the Gay Pride festivities. Again this year, we ask that
those interested join with the BlueLights Campaign in
showing their love and support for those dealing with
AIDS/HIV+ and the continued search for a cure by
shining a blue light from your windows at night as a
beacon of love, hope and understanding.

No one can afford to be in the dark about AIDS. It
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community-based AIDS awareness program that con-
tinues to grow larger each year. With each new light
that shines we continue to be a beacon of hope.
Become a lighthouse against the darkness of
AIDS/HIV+. Your electric bill will not go up, and
you'll be doing a world of good for those fighting this
disease. You might just save a life, if you have the
courage to get involved just a little bit. Isn't that energy
efficient? AIDS is already here ... now what are you
gonna do about it?

David S. Willers
BlueLights Campaign Founder
San Francisco



AIDS activists spray paint a banner stretched in front of the Brandenburg Gate on the day before the opening of the Ninth International AIDS Conference. The banner read "Tear down the Walls of AIDS."

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Berlin AIDS Conference Ends on Sobering Note

By Wayne Friday

More than 14,000 medical researchers, doctors, community workers and patients left the Ninth International AIDS Conference on AIDS in Berlin last Friday with sobering appraisals. "It's best to be frank," said Dr. Michael Merson, head of the World Health Organization's Global Programme on AIDS. "There have been disappointments in (the development of new drugs). And we cannot report the big breakthroughs on preventive vaccines for which the world is waiting. We must accept that our scientific advances today are coming in small steps, not leaps and bounds . . . at times, our progress seems desperately slow."

Some San Francisco doctors attending the Conference tell me that there were some small, albeit significant announcements made regarding this worsening epidemic, while at the same time always remaining very cautious, lest they promote false hopes. One day, maybe, just maybe, the word we are all waiting for will come; until then . . .

L.A. elects GOP mayor; Lesbian Councilmember

The same day that Los Angeles, a city where voters are overwhelmingly registered Democrats, elected its first Republican mayor in decades, voters in that city's 13th Council District (an area that stretches from northeast Los Angeles to Hollywood and is currently represented by losing mayoral candidate Michael Woo) also elected its first openly homosexual councilmember. Lesbian educator Jackie Goldberg, a member of the L. A. school board from 1983 to 1991, edged out her heterosexual male opponent by only 700 votes, but gay and lesbian political activists in the state's largest city are celebrating Goldberg's election to the powerful legislative body. Goldberg will represent one of Los Angeles' most ethnically diverse and politically progressive districts and she credits her election to the fact she did well among voting union workers,

gays and lesbians (despite the fact that her bitter gay male primary opponent endorsed her runoff opponent last week), feminists, teachers and low-income groups.

Councilwoman-elect Goldberg, 48, teaches government, economics and English at a high school in the San Fernando Valley and has worked for liberal Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina as an adviser on children's issues. One of the new council's more liberal members, Goldberg's politics were shaped by participation in the free speech student protest movement as an undergraduate student at UC Berkeley in the late '60s; she is a strong advocate for reforming city government, supports tax incentives for employers who provide child care, and supports a privately funded Urban Youth Corps and wider representation for the poor and minorities. The new councilmember lives in Los Angeles' Echo Park section with her partner, writer Sharon Stricker, and Goldberg's 18-year-old son, Brian.

Commentary

Richard Riordan, the new mayor-elect of Los Angeles, winning surprisingly large 54 percent of the vote to 46 percent over the liberal Michael Woo, benefited from an unusually low voter turnout (white Republicans always vote) the after effects of last year's riots, soaring crime rates, a city budget with a \$350 million shortfall, personal wealth (he reportedly put nearly \$7 million of his own money into buying this one) and a feeling, however unwarranted, that as a sitting councilmember, Mike Woo somehow contributed to the city's current problems. A Republican mayor of the nation's second largest city? Hard to believe; hell, I know people who will gladly put up money that says another Republican will defeat New York City's incumbent Mayor David Dinkens come November; you tell me why. Some gays and lesbians who voted for Riordan in Los Angeles (yes, some indeed did do so) are assuring the gay/lesbian community in that city that

Riordan is far from the conservative demagogue that his political opponents portrayed him to be in the recent election and, in fact, these gay supporters of the new mayor point out that in his election-night speech, Riordan promised to include "people of every sexual orientation" in his new administration. We'll have to wait and see, I guess, but, again - a Republican mayor of Los Angeles ???

Politics & People

Hasta la vista, Arnie - Hollywood's Arnold Schwarzenegger, who campaigned hard for fellow Republican George Bush last year, and despite denials, is said to be interested eventually in a political career himself, quietly resigned recently as top honcho of the President's Council on Physical Fitness (or whatever the hell they call it) but is still doing push-ups and seemingly kissing ass with Governor Pete Wilson.

The *Boston Globe* (sold last week to *The New York Times*) ran a featured front-page story last week on Representative Barney Frank with the headline: "Barney Frank: Making of a pragmatist" on his effort to compromise on the gays in the military mess. Frank, who is said to be aiming at the center but taking fire from both the right and the left, remains one of my favorites. As Frank himself says: "It's always been a mistake to think that because I have strong ideological commitments, therefore I must be uncompromising." Barney Frank - a good legislator and we should be glad we have him.

And how about the 84-year-old Barry Goldwater; some kind of guy. It only goes to show you how far right the Republican party has gone when Barry Goldwater is now considered a political "moderate."

The Alice Toklas Lesbian/Gay Demo Club is sponsoring a "Pre-Parade Breakfast" with state Demo chair Bill Press, Representative Nancy Pelosi, and other Democratic Party officials on the day of the Lesbian/Gay

(Continued on page 27)

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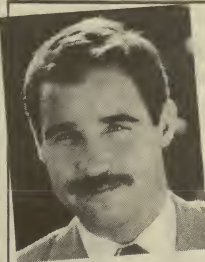
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Dykeotomy

The Dyke March: Celebration, Not Separation

by Nancy Boutilier

At every gay and lesbian march or rally I've ever attended, someone always reminds the crowd that it's not enough to gather in pride, but, we are always told, we must return to our families, our neighborhoods, our jobs, our schools and display that pride: Come out and be visible in your own communities.

Well, that is what a group of women have done in the wake of the recent official March on Washington for Gay/Lesbian/Bi Rights and Liberation. They are bringing their pride and visibility back to the Bay Area in what may be the most inventive and meaningful souvenir from the official march; they are bringing The Dyke March to San Francisco.

The Dyke March in D.C., held on the eve of the official march, drew (well, numbers from the capitol are always suspect, but organizers say) 20,000 women striding from DuPont Circle to the White House.

And it's coming to your streets soon, June 26, to be exact, starting at 7:30 p.m. at Castro and Market. Consider it warm-up, foreplay, or even the main event for San Francisco's Year of the Queer Parade weekend, but don't miss this celebration of lesbian survival, resistance, and visibility.

I say that because, well, because I missed the one in D.C. due to an unexpected reunion with a college pal that lead to a late dinner. I missed it, and all I have heard since, from friends of mine — women and men — who were in Washington is "Were you at The Dyke March?"

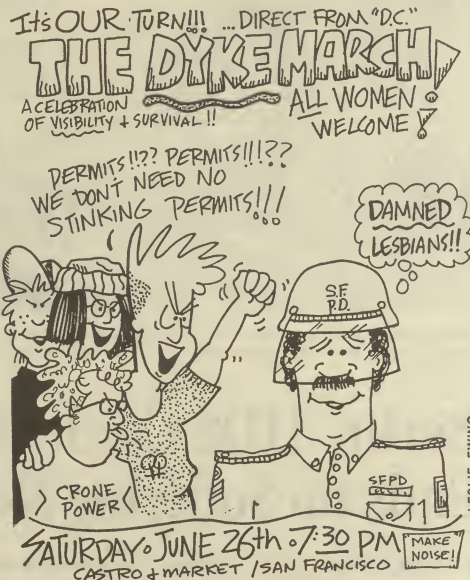
No, no I wasn't, and it sure feels like a missed chance, a lost opportunity, a delicious one-night stand turned down.

What I've heard from women who did march is elation, empowerment, and, most of all, fun. With gay men on the sidelines cheering, thousands of women, led by women in wheelchairs, took back the Capitol with style, humor, and pride.

"It was scads of fun," said Lisa Roth, a San Francisco woman who helped organize the Washington Dyke March. "We pitched for 3,000 women and got 20,000!"

"It was only a matter of minutes after The Dyke March in D.C. that someone was going to decide to do it here," said Roth, now working to produce the San Francisco encore.

"If we could do that good a job 3000 miles away," laughed Roth in a recent phone interview, "imagine what we can do here!" Roth said that she and another dozen women — primarily from the ACT UP Women's Network, Puss 'n'



Boots/L.A. and the New York Lesbian Avengers — spread the news for the D.C. Dyke March and let word of mouth and enthusiasm do the rest.

Roth said some women wished there had been a planned rally in D.C. at the end of The Dyke March, and so, in San Francisco, the Whiptail Lizard Womyn's Collective will coordinate a rally at the tail end of the march. Wren Volpe, of the Whiptails, got involved because of the fun she had at the D.C. Dyke March. "What happened in D.C. set a precedent. Dyke marches are happening all over the country. I say 'Yippee' for lesbian visibility. Gay Pride is great fun, but sometimes you feel swallowed up by the boys."

Roth sees the support and enthusiasm for The Dyke March as a confirmation of her own observations. "The positive response underscored, for me, what I have often intellectualized: how much the gay movement is still male-dominated. The Dyke March spoke to a felt need, one that is not always clearly articulated."

Commentary

Visibility is at the heart of The Dyke March. "One of our hopes and intentions is to attract the broadest spectrum of people," said Roth. "We're certainly not trying to define what a lesbian is. In fact, if we all look alike, then I will consider it a failure."

The Dyke March is, according to Roth, for "any human being who supports dyke visibility. All women are welcome — all dykes, bisexual women, everyone. If men want to support us, they

should stand on the sideline and cheer!"

Damned Lesbians, the coalition organizing the San Francisco Dyke March includes individuals hailing from direct-action grass-roots organizations like ACT UP/San Francisco, Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, Whiptail Lizard Womyn's Collective, Women Against Imperialism, Women's Action Coalition, Pledge of Resistance, Dykes Out of Control, and the newest group on the block, the San Francisco Lesbian Avengers.

One of those Avengers-to-be, Judith Cohen, sees celebration as central to her involvement in the march. "It's not meant to be separatist," said Cohen, "it is a celebration for ourselves, and we hope it will become an annual event."

Well, if the response to the San Francisco Dyke March echoes the euphoria that followed the D.C. one, I think you can count on this becoming an annual event. And, if the D.C. model is any indicator, you won't want to miss this one.

Fundraisers for The Dyke March include Downtown Donna's upcoming "Prom Night" at Faster Pussycat (3160 16th St.) on Friday, June 16, and a night at The Cafe (2367 Market St.) with Mimi Freed, Sabrina Matthews, and the Lyon-Martin Safer Sex Sluts, on Thurs., June 24.

For more information about The Dyke March, call the Damned Lesbians at (415) 330-8932. Also, look forward to more news of the Whiptail Lizards' weekend drug/alcohol-free, community dyke art/performance/meeting space — coming to the Castro starting in July. ▼

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INFO

Guinier Debacle: Torie Osborn, Janet Reno, Even Robert Bork Express Regrets

by Robert Shepard

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Lani Guinier, denying she holds extremist views, said President Clinton, along with her critics, misinterpreted her legal writings and should not have withdrawn her nomination to head the civil rights division of the Justice Department.

Guinier said her critics had falsely defined her views and that she believes in nothing more than democracy for all Americans.

But Clinton pulled the nomination the night of June 3, saying he was not fully informed of all her writings regarding the representation of minorities and could not defend "the ground of the battle" in the Senate.

"I think the president and many others have misinterpreted my writings, which were written in an academic context, which are very nuanced," Guinier said at a June 4 Justice Department news conference.

"My opponents were successful in defining me in a way that my own mother does not recognize," she said.

Guinier said she would have convinced Senate skeptics of her qualifications for the position and convinced them she is not — as some critics have said — a "quota

queen."

"I am deeply disappointed I was denied the opportunity to be confirmed and to work to move the country away from polarization," she said.

She said she does not believe in quotas for minorities — and that her father as a college student was subject to such racial discrimination at Harvard.

"I think that I represent an important and mainstream tradition that this administration is also committed to and that is vigorous enforcement of the civil rights laws as passed by Congress," she said.

"I respect the president," Guinier said of her friend of 20 years. "I disagree with his decision to withdraw my nomination. I think he has the opportunity to be a great president and I hope he takes advantage of that opportunity."

"We disagree about this [nomination]," Guinier said. "But we agree about many things. He believes in racial healing, and so do I."

Asked if they were still friends, Guinier said, "I hope so."

Guinier said the administration may "have learned some lessons for future nominees who will benefit from some of the mistakes that were made with regard to my nomination."

Guinier was warmly ap-

plauded by dozens of Justice Department employees as she left the room where the news conference was held.

With her husband and young son standing at her side during the news conference, Guinier said she looks forward to returning to her post as law professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Earlier, during an appearance on *Fox Morning News*, Attorney General Janet Reno praised Guinier highly.

"I think Lani Guinier is a superb lawyer. I think she was a superb nominee, but I agree with the president that it's time to move on," Reno said.

Reno said Guinier "was not judged on her record but judged on some thought-provoking writings that have in the large part been mischaracterized, but created great division."

"I was first told about her writings when her name was suggested by the White House, and they said her writings are provocative. I read them. I thought that they were thought-provoking efforts on the part of a law professor to invigorate debate," she said.

"I talked with her. I looked at her record. I became convinced that these writings were just that — thought provoking, provocative ideas that were to encourage debate



Torie Osborn

about civil rights. But I became convinced after talking with Lani, after working with her over these weeks, that her record in civil rights enforcement was good, was strong, was consistent with the mainstream," Reno said.

Torie Osborn of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force was "extremely disappointed" at Clinton withdrawing Guinier from consideration.

"Professor Guinier should have been accorded a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee," Osborn believes. "Instead, she was given no opportunity to correct misinformation on her views spread by those whose clear intent is to undermine the enforcement of civil rights legislation in this country."

"The behavior of senators of both parties in mischaracterizing Professor Guinier's writings on the Voting Rights Act as 'anti-democratic' is nothing but the usual doublespeak and sloganeering that passes for analysis in these matters. Most of the remedies proposed by Professor Guinier in her very theoretical law review articles

were not radical, except to those who believe that white male majorities should be able to maintain power over governments. Indeed, all the remedies have been proposed and accepted in various cases by the Justice Department under President Reagan, precisely because they accomplish the protection of minority voting access and participation in government," Osborn said in an NGLTF press release.

On the other end of the political spectrum, Robert Bork, whose controversial nomination to the Supreme Court was rejected after a bitter Senate battle, said, "I certainly feel for [Guinier]. I think she is probably suffering more than I did."

"I understood that I was in a political fight about who was going to control the Supreme Court. And I really didn't take it personally. I'm afraid she may be taking it personally," Bork said on *Fox Morning News*. "I feel sorry that she got put up and then left hung out to dry by the president."

Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), ranking Republican member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said Guinier should have been given a "full and fair opportunity" to present her positions to the committee.

But Hatch also said that he thought the panel would have concluded "that many of her positions on the Voting Rights Act, and on other civil rights issues, would have proven to be outside the mainstream of the American sense of fair play and equal opportunity." ▼

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Gay Youth Find Comfort in Santa Clara

by Marv. Shaw

Increased services for gay and lesbian youth will soon be available in the new home of the Bill Wilson Center at 3490 Alameda in Santa Clara. Lyn Morison disclosed recently. Morison, an openly lesbian assistant program coordinator, spoke with the *Bay Area Reporter* last week about programs for gay kids in Santa Clara County and about how expansion will benefit both gay and straight kids — and often their families as well.

The new building, officially open on June 18, will bring together the administrative offices and the facilities for housing, treatment, and other services for gay males and lesbians ages 12 to 17. While the new building marks a great advancement for its complex of programs, Morison pointed out that housing, therapy, family counseling, and other services were gradually enlarged from relatively humble beginnings in 1973, when students in the University of Santa Clara got the idea and began work.

The project soon got the enthusiastic support of Bill Wilson, formerly a mayor of the city of Santa Clara. Wilson pitched in and gave the kind of help a former mayor could extend. Originally called Webster Center, it was renamed when Wilson died in 1979.

Essentially, the Wilson

center is a community center for disadvantaged youth, with some financial support supplied by the cities of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara — but as Morison explained, most of its funds come from a variety of sources, both public and private, including grants from Santa Clara County, state and federal sources, and an amazing variety of private organizations, such as the Packard Foundation, the Kresge Foundation, the Koret Foundation, and the Silicon Valley Charity Ball Foundation.

Morison made clear that the organization tends to the needs of kids of all races, socio-economic backgrounds, and sexual orientations, with the gay kids participating according to their particular necessities while getting the attention they need as young gay people.

To illustrate, she cited a counseling program developed at the Billy De Frank Gay and Lesbian Community Center in San Jose, where a gay teen program is in operation under the direction of another open lesbian, Pamela Ledgerwood. The group meets at the De Frank Center each week on Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m., and provides youths with a way to work together and enjoy each other in a protected environment with sympathetic adult guidance. Ledgerwood's half-time position was obtained through a grant from United Way.



The Bill Wilson Center in Santa Clara.

Typical of the new Wilson Center's improved facilities will be the increased residence capacity. In the old neighborhood house, only six beds could be provided, but soon 20 young people can be sheltered. Stays might be only overnight, but when the situation warrants it, residents from 12 to 21 years could reside there up to 18 months. For homeless kids, Morison noted, this capacity is quite a boon. The residence factor is not yet operational because a state license is still pending.

"Almost all the kids have multiple problems," Morison stated. "Many of these come from abuse — substance abuse, physical (including sexual) abuse, and predominantly emotional abuse. With dysfunctional families most often the source of this abuse, the

youngster reacts by acting out, sometimes by flight, sometimes by violence."

In treating the injury that the abuse has caused, the Bill Wilson Center employs a number of resources, including legal advocacy, which often means providing guardians. Foster home placement is another service, and Morison proudly cited the figure of three out of five satellite homes as gay households.

The Center goes beyond substance abuse treatment and involves basic health education and counseling to avoid AIDS.

Morison emphasized the vital staff factor of openness to diversity. "If a staff member is gay, he or she is encouraged to come out to the youngsters," Morison said. "This frankness about being who you are creates a comfortable atmosphere which strengthens the young person to be open and accepting about him/herself."

The acceptance of diversi-

ty is vital on other counts too. Five distinct ethnic groups are represented in the clientele, with Caucasian and Hispanic predominating. Interestingly, more girls than boys are involved, although the percentages there are nearly equal.

As for the future of the Wilson Center, Morison forecasts the consolidation of programs and a continued expansion of present services in the immediate future. For the longer range, she believes that periodic needs assessments will point the way to further development.

"I am excited by the fact that we are developing as a collaborative agency which is not dependent on individual concerns but is open to suggestions," she concluded. "Our strength will come from combined efforts in programs that operate together."

The new Bill Wilson Center is located at 3490 Alameda, Santa Clara, CA 95050. The telephone number is (408) 984 5955. ▼



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Bill Would Require Warning About Lube

by Dennis Conkin

A proposed ordinance by Supervisor Carole Migden would require local stores and other venues that sell personal lubricants for use with condoms to post warning signs near the product or at the cash register.

Migden's ordinance would make it a policy of the city, by amending the City Charter, to require the label so that consumers will be warned of the dangers of using oil-based lubricants with latex condoms. It will also advise them that condoms with nonoxynol-9 may reduce the transmission of HIV infection and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The warning signs must be 8-1/2 by 11 inches, and the word "Caution" must be no less than 1/2 an inch in height and centered on a single line with no other text.

The rest of the notice must read in uppercase lettering: "Check the label before you buy. Use only water based lu-

bricants with a condom. Studies show condoms break if used with lubricants containing oil or vegetable shortening."

The warning sign will also contain a hotline number for people to call for more information.

According to Migden's legislation, the ordinance must be written in English and Spanish and Tagalog, and the charter amendment gives any peace officer or health inspector the authority to enforce the posting requirement.

The measure is sponsored by Supervisor Bill Maher and has the support of the San Francisco Health Department, according to Dr. Mitch Katz, director of the AIDS Office.

"We support the legislation because we believe the use of inappropriate lubricants increases the risk of HIV transmission," Katz said.

The legislation is expected to be heard before the Board of Supervisors Health and Human Services Committee later this month. ▼

Community



Turnabout, directed by Dan Bessie, will be screened at the 17th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival June 23.

Turnabout, a Film about Gay Puppeteers, Honored with National Media Owl Award

by Dennis Conkin

Turnabout, a film about puppeteer Harry Burnett, who died last month at the age of 92, and his 92-year-old partner Forman Brown, was honored last month by a National Media Owl Award from the Retirement Research Foundation.

Burnett and Brown founded The Yale Puppeteers and operated the *Turnabout Theatre*, a fabled Hollywood tourist attraction in the 1940s and '50s.

Santa Cruz filmmaker Don Bessie, Burnett's nephew, was presented the Owl award by syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers and film critic Gene Siskel during the Foundation's sixth annual awards ceremony in Chicago.

"Growing up during the late 1930s and early '40s, I had tremendous pride in my uncle Harry," Bessie says in a press statement about the film. "But, I also found myself listening to and passing on the same tired homophobic jokes my contemporaries told."

It wasn't until he became an adult, Bessie said, that he began to understand what part being gay played in the lives of Brown, Burnett, and Roddy Brandon, Burnett's lifelong companion.

"That understanding was a revelation and I wanted to convey those feelings to a broad audience. So in this sense *Turnabout* is also a personal story," Bessie said.

Burnett and Forman became interested in puppets

while they were still students at the University of Michigan, after attending a marionette show in 1922.

Burnett began making puppets and performing marionette plays with Forman at schools and, during summer breaks, at East Coast vacation resort hotels.

The pair, along with Brandon, toured the country in the '20s, opened a puppet theater in downtown Los Angeles at El Teatro Torito, and spent a year performing at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel in New York.

For 15 years the Yale Puppeteers, as they called themselves, operated the *Turnabout Theatre* in Hollywood. The theatre had a puppet show at one end and a live revue stage at the other, with old trolley car seats for the audience.

Elsa Lancaster played at the theatre for a 12-year run of 3,200 performances, and Odette, the internationally acclaimed folksinger, began her career there.

In 1933 Brown wrote *Better Angel*, a thinly-veiled autobiographical work under the pseudonym Richard Meeker, describing his feeling about growing up gay during the early 1890s. In 1987, the novel, considered a gay classic, was reprinted by Alyson Publications after it entered the public domain; publisher Sasha Alyson could not find "Meeker" and assumed he was dead.

"*Turnabout* is about the old Hollywood days, about growing up gay and 'coming out' in their mid-'80s, about the full, happy, and productive lives of three unusual men, and about the revival of *Better Angel*," Bessie said.

Burnett is considered one of the world's premiere puppeteers and Brown is a composer who created material for Sophie Tucker, Shirley Booth, Imogene Coca, and others.

The film includes stories about performers Charlie Chaplin, Liberace, and Greta Garbo, poet Robert Frost, and a host of other celebrities and entertainers that Burnett and Brown knew and entertained, as well as interviews, clips of puppet performance, photos spanning 70 years, and 13 of Brown's songs.

Bessie said that although the film is mainly the story of

the puppet theater, it's also "a story of being gay in America when few individuals were openly gay, and most of all the story of a caring, supportive family of wonderful entertainers."

Turnabout plays at the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival at the Castro Theatre on Wednesday, June 23. Forman Brown will appear at A Different Light Bookstore, at 489 Castro Street, following the screening. ▼

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National News

From the 'Squalor' of Guantanamo To Miami: Haitians Come to the U.S.A.

United Press International

MIAMI — A plane load of 27 HIV-positive Haitian refugees and their family members arrived in Miami Monday, June 14. They comprise the first group from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they had been detained for as long as 20 months. A total of 142 Haitians will be brought to the United States under a federal court order. Most of them have tested positive for HIV.

U.S. District Judge Sterling Johnson Jr. ruled in New York June 8 that conditions at a tent city at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo were "squalid." He ordered the Haitians, who were held there because their HIV status prohibited them from legally entering the United States, be brought to the United States.

Of the 142 Haitians at Guantanamo, 134 carry the virus but medical personnel at Guantanamo said none has full-blown AIDS. The rest are their children or spouses.

Daryl Bergquist of the Justice Department's Community Relations Service said the remainder of the Haitians would be brought to the United States in three or four plane loads over the next ten days.

He said although there may be no full-blown AIDS cases, "there are some people who require special medical

assistance."

The Haitians are being resettled by the government and several church groups.

Immigration officials said of the 27 Haitians brought to Miami on Monday, 12 will remain in Florida, including three in south Florida. Another 13 will go to New York, while one will go to New Jersey and one to Massachusetts.

Bergquist said the pattern for settling the others will be similar.

"It depends on where the people have family. If they have family, they will be reunited," Bergquist said. "Then we have a couple of grantees who will help."

Those depending on grantees — people and agencies providing financial support for the Haitians — would not be placed in south Florida, he said.

Six of the 27 who arrived Monday are children, and 21 are adults.

The 142 have been found to have plausible claims for asylum in the United States but were detained at Guantanamo because of U.S. policy that prohibited HIV-infected immigrants from entering the country.

More than 40,000 Haitians fled their impoverished island homeland on small boats in the past two years to seek asylum in the United States. The exodus began shortly after a bloody military coup in

September 1991 ousted democratically elected President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Most of the Haitians were returned to Haiti but more than 10,000 were brought to the United States to pursue asylum claims. Those who were found to have plausible claims for asylum but who were HIV-positive were detained at the Guantanamo refugee-processing camp, which was set up November 1991.

Initially, 233 Haitians who tested HIV-positive were detained at the camp. They were brought to the United States on an individual basis when their condition deteriorated to the point they needed immediate medical care.

Representative Carrie Meek (D-Miami) and Haitian relief agencies have mobilized dozens of groups and individuals in the Miami area to help the new arrivals.

Taxpayer-financed assistance includes federal cash payments for eight months if refugees do not qualify for other programs, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Medicaid, and Supplemental Security Income.

Under current U.S. policy, Haitian refugees intercepted on the high seas are immediately returned to Haiti to pursue asylum claims through the U.S. Embassy there. ▼

Supreme Court: Hate Crime Laws are Okay

by Michael Kirkland

WASHINGTON — A unanimous U.S. Supreme Court has upheld longer sentences for "hate crimes," when it ruled on Friday, June 11, that states may impose heavier sentences for crimes that are clearly motivated by the victim's race. By doing so, it also gave the go-ahead for similar sentencing guidelines for crimes motivated by the victim's sexual orientation.

The ruling reversed a Wisconsin Supreme Court decision that said the state law was unconstitutional.

The high court decision restores the extended or "enhanced" sentence of a Kenosha, Wisconsin, man who was convicted of inciting a group of black youths to beat a 14-year-old white youth. The group of suspects also stole the boy's tennis shoes. The victim was in a coma for four days.

According to court testimony, the attack was incited after the group discussed a scene in the movie *Mississippi Burning* in which a white man beat up a young black man who was praying.

The Supreme Court said Wisconsin's law has "no chilling effect" on free speech.

Writing for the unanimous court, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist said the First Amendment does not forbid using speech as evidence "to

establish the elements of a crime or to prove motive or intent."

Rehnquist cited the case of *Haupt v. the United States* in 1947. Haupt was tried for treason, and the high court used evidence of conversations to rule his acts were committed because of "adherence to an enemy" — in his case Nazi Germany — as required by statute.

This is not thought control, Rehnquist wrote, because if they're unconnected to a

crime "a defendant's abstract beliefs, however obnoxious to most people, may not be taken into consideration by a sentencing judge."

The Wisconsin law also imposed harsher sentences when a crime is motivated by religion, sexual orientation, or similar status, as well as race.

There are 46 states with some form of hate crime legislation, with more than half of those laws based on enhancing the sentences for existing crimes. ▼

AMA Affirms Gay, Lesbian Rights

United Press International

CHICAGO — Members of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association voted on Tuesday, June 15, to change the group's by-laws to explicitly ban discrimination against gay and lesbian doctors.

The doctors decided on a voice vote to adopt a resolution that bars the AMA from denying membership to anyone for reasons other than character or competence.

"Membership in any category of the American Medical Association or in any of its constituent associations shall

not be denied or abridged on account of sex, color, creed, race, religion, disability, ethnic origin, national origin, sexual orientation, or age, or for any other reason unrelated to character or competence," the resolution says.

A spokesman for the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights hailed the vote.

"The AMA is a very powerful and conservative organization," AAPHR spokesman Ben Schatz said. "For it to take a strong stance on this issue can only bolster the efforts of gays and lesbians to gain equal rights." ▼

Self-Portrait of a Murderer

The following letter was entered by defendant Terry Helvey as unsworn testimony during his May 1993 court martial proceedings. Helvey had entered a plea of guilty to the charge of murder with intent to cause great bodily harm, in the death of his shipmate Allen Schindler. Helvey acknowledged that, together with fellow shipmate Charles Vins, he punched and kicked Schindler to death because Schindler was gay.

The letter is to Schindler's mother, Dorothy Hajdys of Chicago Heights, Illinois, who attended the proceedings in Japan. It was provided to the Bay Area Reporter by Michael Petrelis of Queer Nation, who also attended the trial, and who was instrumental in bringing the case to the attention of the American media.

It is important to remember while reading Helvey's letter to Hajdys that Vins and Helvey had stalked her son, followed or pushed him into a public restroom, and battered him literally beyond recognition with no provocation.

Vins served four months in the brig for his part in the murder, including at least one kick to Schindler's forehead that prevented him from escaping from Helvey.

Dear Mrs. Hajdys,

I realize that nothing I can say and nothing I can do will make up for the loss of your son, but in my heart I must try.

My name is Terry M. Helvey, my friends call me Terry, I'm 21 years old and I'm from a small town in Southeast Missouri. I graduated High School the summer of 1991 and then joined the Navy that fall. I was interested in the Navy most of my teenage life. Only when I got to High School did I start seeing that there was more to life than just labor jobs. So I tried my hand at preparing for college, but as the cards lay I was not in the position to attend college financially.

In the time to come I would meet a lot of different people and go to a lot of places I've never been, being from a small town I've never been around cities to [sic] much, and I must admit I was a bit intimidated at the size of San Diego, Chicago, and even the Belleau Wood itself. I didn't get to meet your son in a liberty type atmosphere, but I did have a few brief encounters with him on the ship.

For 7 months now I've been confined to the brig because a young man lost his life to the hands of two fellow shipmates. His name was Allen Schindler and I was one of those shipmates.

At first I denied to myself that I could be any part of this. Now I accept full responsibility for my actions. There is no excuse for my conduct. If I could erase this mess and make everything normal again, I would, but I can't and I have learned to except [sic] that I was a part of it. I have spent many hours with the chaplain trying to cope with your son's death. I have prayed for forgiveness, been to confession; mass. Ma'am, God may be able to forgive me, but I know that you cannot, and I'm not sure if I'll ever be able to

forgive myself.

Just as I can't expect you to forgive me for what I've done, its difficult for me to express the sorrow that I feel. I can only imagine how it must feel to have lost the very flesh and blood that you've raised for so long, through good times and bad, I know in my heart that if anybody was to take my own flesh and blood from me that I would not ... could not, ever forgive under any circumstances, the person or persons involved in the incident [sic]. Ma'am I'm not ever going to disrespect your integrity by even asking you to consider forgiving what I did to your son, but only to reason what you have heard of me and of the person I am, now and before, and find a place in your heart to understand that what your [sic] going through I am going through also.

Ma'am I can't really remember everything that happened in the rest room that

night. I know that this is a ploy that is often used to excuse one's guilt, but I make no excuses to you. I want you to know what happened that night — that's why I wanted you to sit in on my trial. In any case I know that your [sic] very upset that the Navy gave Charles Vins only 4 months for his involvement in the murder of your son. I wish I could make everything right, but I can't fix what happened with Vins anymore than I can bring your son back. Believe me theres nothing that I want more than to do both. I've lost hundreds of hours of sleep just wishing and praying that I could change anything that would make this thing better for the both of us. Your [sic] not alone in your sorrow ma'am. I have to live with it everyday. I live with two sorrows; one, the loss of an innocent life, and two, the knowledge that I caused you and your family so much grief. I can't apologize enough for what has happened



Terry Helvey

ma'am but I've got to try. Ma'am I wish that your son was back, but he won't be. Please understand if I could change places with your son I would not hesitate.

Ma'am you don't know me as a person so you have no idea how sincere I really am. I would hope that someday I will be able to make things better. Until then we must have faith that God knows what he's doing with our lives. Thats the

only thing that keeps me sain [sic] during this whole trial. I will always keep you and your son Allen in my prayers till the day I rest, and I hope that one day you could see fit to put me in yours also. I hope this letter makes you feel better. It comes strait [sic] from my heart and is only meant to apologize for this awful death.

—Terry M. Helvey

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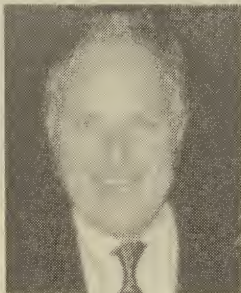
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Riordan Wins L.A. Mayor's Race, Promises To Make Gay Appointments

by Karen Ocamb

Much is expected of new Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan. His eight percentage point victory over City Councilmember Mike Woo in the June 8 election was won primarily on the strength of his promise to "Turn L.A. Around" in the midst of unrelenting violence and a crumbling economy. Now the city waits to see if he can deliver on those promises. Already he has confirmed to the *Bay Area Reporter* that he intends to march in the forthcoming Christopher Street West gay pride parade.



Los Angeles Mayor-elect Richard Riordan

(Photo: Karen Ocamb)

A conservative Republican businessman, Riordan nonetheless captured the hearts and minds of Democrats as well as Independents during the campaign, and cut deeply into territory thought to be pro-Woo.

For instance, according to a *Los Angeles Times* poll, Riordan won 50 percent of the female vote, despite Woo's attempts to characterize him as an anti-abortion fanatic. He won 43 percent of the Latino vote, despite heavy lobbying for Woo by Latino favorite Gloria Molina. He even won 31 percent of the Asian vote. Riordan, a committed Catholic, also won 49 percent of the Jewish vote.

But a perhaps more surprising statistic is how well Riordan did among identified lesbian and gay voters. The *Times* poll, of 3,402 geographically diverse voters, indicates he received 28 percent of the vote among the five percent of those who were willing to acknowledge their homosexuality. That is a significant increase from the 11 percent of gay votes he reportedly got in the primary.

The increase may be due in part to Riordan's hiring of openly gay campaign staffers and his specific outreach to the lesbian and gay community. Not only did he attend gay events — he was endorsed by the Log Cabin Club — but at a

certain point in his campaign Riordan started adding sexual orientation to his stump speech.

For instance, says Burke, at a campaign stop at a children's playground in Balboa Park where a child had been shot in a drive-by shooting a week earlier, Riordan talked about protecting all families "no matter what their sexual orientation." That, Burke says, is a "quantum leap" in politics.

James Vaughan, an openly gay Riordan field director and Log Cabin Club member, says that at another press conference in Hollywood after Riordan's mother died, the candidate again talked about the importance of families — and included those of different sexual orientations.

At a private fundraiser, Riordan promised to make city government reflect the city it serves and promised to have an openly gay advisor who has direct access to him. According to William Wardlaw, Riordan campaign manager and head of the transition team, that means the active recruitment of qualified lesbians and gays to fill some of the 250 commission and other posts — what Burke calls "regular, real life positions."

In a June 11 phone interview, Wardlaw said he will

(Continued on next page)



Los Angeles City Councilmembers Mark Ridley-Thomas and Jackie Goldberg.

(Photo: Karen Ocamb)

Goldberg Becomes L.A.'s First Lesbian or Gay City Councilmember

by Karen Ocamb

The tension and euphoria of the tight race that openly lesbian candidate Jackie Goldberg ran against Tom LaBonge showed election night, June 8, as 300 multicultural men, women, and children crowded into the Grace Simon Lodge in Elysian Park wildly rooting for Goldberg to become the first gay person to sit on the Los Angeles City Council.

In the end, it all came down to a mere 680 votes — or, if you choose to look at it another way, 340 voters. Even so, Goldberg accepted her victory over LaBonge as proudly and optimistically as if it had been a landslide.

"This is a new beginning in the 13th Council District," Goldberg said, taking the stage to declare victory with 54 percent of the vote tallied. With her lover Sharon Stricker at her side, Goldberg read an inspirational Marge Percy poem, after which the crowd burst into a chant — "the people united will never be defeated" — in both English and Spanish.

Although Goldberg vowed to give voice to the voiceless, there didn't seem to be many voiceless that night: Goldberg supporters' voices rocked the Lodge with an explosion of light and laughter in the midst of acres and acres of darkness.

Goldberg credited her win to a substantial get-out-the-vote effort and her "bringing people together" message. "Roughly 700 votes in this district isn't bad against this backlash," Goldberg said election night. The "backlash" to which she referred was the victory of conservative Republican businessman Richard Riordan over the liberal Mike Woo in the Mayor's race. Several of Goldberg's supporters vowed to "give [Riordan] hell" from the Council.

Of the 50,411 registered voters in the 13th District, 24,189 people voted. Of those, 13,041 voted for Woo and 10,365 voted for Riordan. But when voting for City Council, the margin narrowed. Only 22,826 voted in that race, with Goldberg receiving 11,753 votes to LaBonge's 11,073. Put another way, 22 percent

of registered voters cast ballots for LaBonge, compared with 23.4 percent for Goldberg.

A post-election analysis to understand the closeness of the Goldberg-LaBonge race is difficult. But from a cursory look at the final election results it appears that after voting for Woo, some voters crossed over and voted for LaBonge, a former deputy to City Councilmember John Ferraro, instead of Goldberg. It is not clear if these votes are in any way linked to the contentious primary battle between Goldberg and AIDS Healthcare Foundation President Michael Weinstein, which ultimately resulted in Weinstein noisily endorsing LaBonge.

Also in the mix of post-election analysis variables, is the fact that an undetermined number of votes were lost when a voting booth in Hollywood went unstaffed for several peak voting hours in the morning. It is not clear if Riordan's negative TV spots and direct mail campaign that blamed Hollywood's crime and homeless problems on Woo, who has represented the District since 1985, would have affected the 680-vote margin of victory.

What is clear is Goldberg's commitment to coalition building and "getting things done." One of her first priorities, she says, is making the district "clean and green." Her first official act in that direction was calling out to the boisterous election night crowd to grab a trash bag and clean up the Lodge. A long-time social activist, Goldberg has pledged to fight for domestic partnership benefits for city employees and registration of gay couples for legal recognition.

But Goldberg also takes her responsibility as a role model seriously as well. In every interview she has given following her election she has included the fact that she is a lesbian. "I want to be a role model so that every gay and lesbian child will know that they, too, can do whatever they want to do in life," she told the *Bay Area Reporter* and virtually anyone else who would listen.

"It's always significant

(Continued on next page)

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Lee

(Continued from page 1)

criticized the prosecution of a suicide attempt by an HIV-infected man as misguided and a waste of resources.

"The People felt that this was not a case where we were able to get more than a battery conviction after a review of all the evidence by the court," said Assistant District Attorney Steve Seiler.

Lee told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he is relieved the case is finally behind him, and that he wants to get on with his life and "go back to work" as a tattoo artist.

Lee denied allegations that he ever did more "than tap an officer on the shoulder" and called the prosecution of his alleged crimes "a farce."

"They got blood on themselves. It was a complete accident. One of the cops testified that I never touched him, never threatened him," Lee said.

Lee said that his four months in the county jail "wasted a lot of money" and that people with HIV and AIDS in the criminal justice system "get treated pretty poorly, even on a county level."

Lee said that the lesbian and gay community "would be appalled" by the quality of care that gay people and people with HIV receive in jails.

Now that he is free from



Wayne Bruce Lee

(Photo: Judi Parks)

the threat of further prosecution in the case, Lee says that he hopes to use his experience to help other people.

"If I can show how the system treats people with HIV infection, that will be an extra," he said. ▼

to sign civil rights legislation when it comes across his desk and to make the best use of our talents in running the city."

Vaughan says he thinks the City AIDS Coordinator position will be filled in the "second wave" of hiring. He also says that Riordan has promised to create a Gay and Lesbian Task Force to look into and make recommendation about gay youth, based on the model programs originated by Massachusetts Governor William Weld, another Republican. "That would make the spin and structure more palatable to conservatives groups," says Vaughan. "Our job is to hold Riordan's feet to the fire."

Resumes of those who are interested in a city government position in Los Angeles are being accepted now. Interested parties should forward their resumes to the attention of Jadine Nielsen, at the Transition office, 4525 Sherman Ave., Sherman Oaks, CA 91403. ▼

Riordan

(Continued from previous page)

personally do outreach, including calling David Mixner — who he knows and respects from working together on the Clinton campaign — to provide him with recommendations. Mike Keeley, a Democrat who's been out at his law associate job with Riordan's firm since 1982, will also be asked for recommendations.

Vaughan, who is also working on the transition team, has been pushing "the best and the brightest" Log Cabin members, including attorney Carol Newman, who says she is "very hopeful" about Riordan's upcoming tenure as Mayor.

"My gut reaction," says Vaughan, "is that Riordan may not be gung ho in general for all our rights. But he doesn't understand how anyone can discriminate against people because of their sexual orientation. He also promised

Faster Than a Movie-of-the-Week:
Wayne Bruce Lee Opera To Premiere

by Dennis Conkin

An HIV-positive South of Market performance artist will present workshop performances of "Issue of Blood — A New Viral Opera," beginning on June 25 at Lennon Studio at 271 Dore Alley.

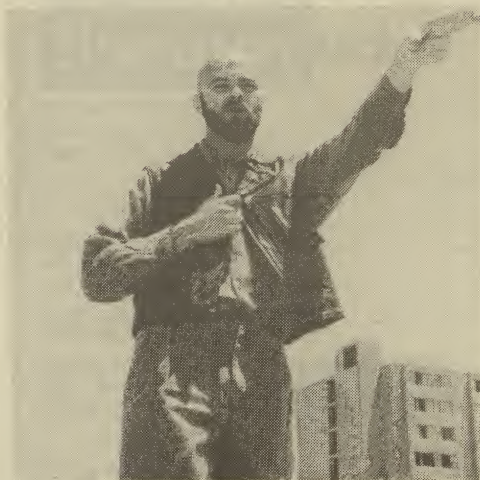
The performance work-in-progress by Animal J. Smith, a "liturgical industrial opera" in the classical style is based on the story of Wayne Bruce Lee, a gay HIV-positive tattoo artist who was charged with attempted murder after he allegedly splattered blood on four San Francisco police officers during an October 1992 suicide attempt. [See related story, page 1.]

Smith said the performance, which will run on Friday and Saturday, June 25 and 26 and again on July 2 and 3, "hits very close to home" for members of the gay community and "will explore the political prosecution of Lee" and the persecution of people who are HIV positive.

"There is an increase in hatred and intolerance of people with HIV," Smith told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Following the performance of the work in progress, which will include seven readers and singers on stage, the audience will be invited to give feedback and reactions to the opera.

"It's classically designed in



Animal J. Smith

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

the American Coastal mode, but there are a lot of ancient tones in the piece," Smith said.

"We are using Bruce's story with his blessing, as a framework to reveal and examine the increasing criminalization of HIV, the ways we regard and relate to HIV-positive people, how we who are positive see ourselves and

how others see us and how much remains to be done towards removing the stigma and terror associated with this virus," Smith told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The cost for the performance is \$5.00 and people with AIDS are invited to attend free of charge.

For information, showtimes and reservations contact Smith at 561-1441. ▼

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Goldberg

(Continued from previous page)

when you're the first of anything. When you're at the table you can truly represent your own community," said Goldberg. "I understand our issues. Now we don't have to hope that someone else will raise them for us." Goldberg also feels that when she engages in City Council business with people who may never have met a gay or lesbian person before, it may be possible to "connect with others" on behalf of the gay community.

If her election night victory party was any gauge, Gold-

berg's off to a good start. Fellow City Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas joined County Supervisor Gloria Molina and former Council candidate Conrado Terrazas at the Lodge to show support, with phone calls coming in from Councilmember Mike Hernandez and State Senator Diane Watson.

But perhaps a greater measure of the history made June 8 was the simple vignette of a white heterosexual man smiling as he turned away Goldberg and Stricker quietly turned and kissed on stage. "You wouldn't think anything of it if they were a heterosexual couple," the man said to a surprised reporter. ▼

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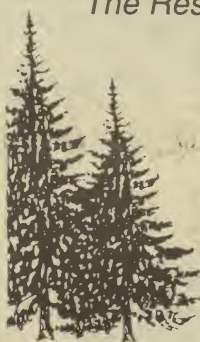
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World News

New Serbian Terror: Male Rape in Bosnia

By Jason Thomas

From a November 16, 1992
State Department report:

"Two Serbian brothers were let into the camp after 5 p.m. These brothers entered the sleeping quarters carrying pistols and automatic rifles. They called for Emir, Jasmin, and Alic to come forward. The three were beaten with rifle butts and police batons... The brothers forced Alic first to drink a glass of motor oil and then to drink the urine of the other two prisoners. Alic was next beaten until he was unconscious and then revived with cold water. After further beatings, Alic was forced to take his pants off. The brothers then forced Emir and Jasmin to bite off Alic's testicles. Alic died of his wounds that night."

Call it a war crime. Call it rape. But don't call it a gay crime and don't call it gay rape. If you use the word "homosexual," it won't get reported. It won't be part of the statistics. And it won't be remembered as one of the travesties of a war that's made a mockery of the term bloodshed.

More than 135,000 — some estimates report nearly 200,000 — are dead or missing. More than 2 million people have been driven from their homes.

At a recent lecture at the University of Pittsburgh, San Francisco Chronicle journalist Stephen Swartz discussed his article, "Sexual Terror in the Serbian War." It is Swartz's belief that the tolerance of homosexuality in the Bosnian culture has provided Serbian soldiers with the will to rape all men — gay and straight.

Q: How tolerant is the Bosnian culture of the gay lifestyle?

A: Historically, Bosnians are very gay-tolerant. The attitude is that same-sex love is a part of normal life. You will never hear an anti-gay statement among Bosnian, Albanian, or Turkish Muslim. You will never hear, "Oh, he's a faggot." In fact, there are no words for these things. There is no negative term for a gay man or a gay male lover of another man.

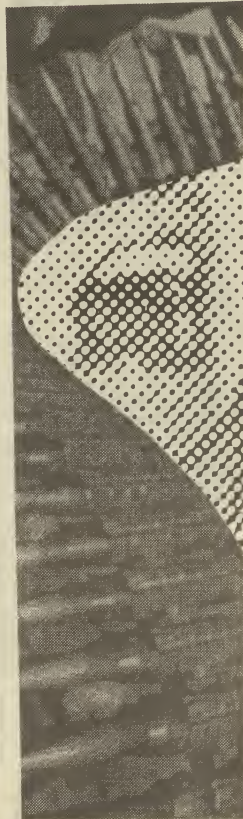
Because of this tolerance, the Serbs are aggressive against Bosnian men?

Right. The homophobia, the sexual terror against Bosnian men does not consist in pulling gay men out and terrorizing them. It consists in labeling all Bosnian men as gay, and then terrorizing them.

Among Serbs, it is constant and common to hear attacks on the Bosnian Muslim people for their tolerance and their acceptance of gayness. The Serbs say the Bosnians are decadent, they are vice-ridden and they deserve to die.

And this is happening with all men?

That's exactly what's happening. They're making men have sex together, making them have oral sex, anal sex,



(Art: Jim Provenzano)

making them mutilate each other's genitals. It's happening to straight men who, are told, "You are Bosnian Muslim, therefore you are queer, therefore get down and suck this man's dick while we all watch."

Is it ethnic hatred that has caused the Serbs to be so aggressive?

I think it's a combination of two things. First is the fact that even though they were oppressed in the Turkish empire, they had this special religious state where they were the bosses, so to speak. Coming out of the Turkish empire, they felt they should remain in charge.

The support from the old Russian empire, combined with a lot of other things, has instilled in them the belief that they were a special people — a chosen people — chosen for power and chosen to exercise that power. They had an inferiority complex and they never got over it. That, in turn, has turned into fantasies of superiority and tremendous aggression.

Frankly, among the Serbs there does seem to be a form of mass insanity. They seem to have undergone a form of collective insanity. I don't know what the explanation is. It's like an illness, a contagious illness.

If Serbia gets away with this against the Croats, doesn't this leave room for Russians to do it against the Ukrainians, in which case it would be a nuclear exchange?

We're hearing people say that if the reactionaries get back in power in Russia that they will attack the Ukraine. It's not impossible.

From a November 2, 1992
State Department report:

"A 40-year-old Bosnian Muslim from the village of Kozarac ... described the capture of his village by Serbian irregular military forces. The witness stated that a young Muslim man from Kozarac who had owned a Suzuki motorcycle was tortured in front of the other prisoners. He was severely beaten all over his body and his teeth were knocked out. The guards then tied one end of a wire tightly around his testicles and tied the other end to the victim's motorcycle. A guard got on the motorcycle and sped off."

Is it a homophobic attitude among the Serbs that has perpetuated this rape against men?

Yes. You have to realize that there is really no homophobia in the Bosnian society. There's acceptance of same-sex relationships.

The Serbs, however, have used that attitude to justify their aggression [toward Bosnians]. They have built up in their people a deep homophobic mythology. They believe that under Turkish domination, the Turks came into the villages and forcibly took away Serbian boys. This Turkish elite was entirely a male body. But it was not a gay harem. It was a male administrative elite.

But in the Serbian mythology, every Serb is brought up to believe that an attractive Serbian man under the Turks would be kidnapped and taken to Istanbul and be used as a sexual plaything of the Turks.

Is the Serbs' homophobia that intense?

Homophobia is more deeply embedded in the Serbian ideology than, I would say, any other national ideology. I don't know of any other people in Europe who are worse.

But in the war, is it genocide or homophobia?

Genocide, yes. But there is also a sexual terror. There is the attitude on the part of the Serbs that they are going to kill the Bosnian Muslims because they are gay, because the Bosnians feel gay is normal.

What about lesbians?

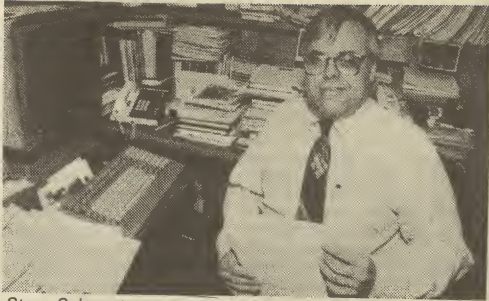
The difference is only that gay male relationships are more public. Everybody tends to know that Mohammed is sleeping with Ahmed. Relationships between women are much more intimate and private because their life is more intimate and private.

If you walked up to a Bosnian and said, "Those two [women] over there — they sleep together and are sexually active," a person would hardly know what to make of it.

And homophobia versus misogyny?

What's going on against women is misogyny. What's going on against men is homophobia. The women are perceived as worthless. They're perceived as worse

(Continued on next page)



Steve Schwartz

Bosnia

(Continued from previous page)

than gay.

Do you think there might be a tendency with the mainstream media not to report on the rape of Bosnian men who are perceived to be gay, because it wouldn't evoke much sympathy?

That's part of it. It's also the fact that there is a tendency among the Croats and Muslims to ignore it because it's not something that they're used to talking about. They've talked about it but they haven't pushed it to the forum.

Also, there isn't the quantity of incidence. There are 30,000 to 50,000 raped Bosnian Muslim women. The problem is that the Western media reports the misogyny. They'll report the mass rape of women, but they don't report the homophobia. We don't know how many raped Bosnian Muslim men there are.

What are the Bosnians doing?

They're just desperately fighting back.

Do you think intervention by the United Nations is the answer?

It won't permanently end the war. One of the worst things is: what's going to happen in another 30 years? In another 60 years? Generation after generation is going to receive all of this stuff. I don't think it will ever end — permanently — but I think the war part, the direct fighting, can end.

But UN intervention is an option ...

Yes. Three things could happen. The West could intervene, there could be a Bosnian victory — which I don't think is a possibility — or the Serbian government could collapse or engage in some adventure that could cause it to collapse.

And the torture of Bosnian men continues?

Yes. The Serbian government and the Serbian extremists have made it a cornerstone of their propaganda against Bosnian Muslims that Bosnian men do not deserve to live because of their acceptance of gay life. ▼

[This interview was reprinted from OUT! in Pittsburgh.]

Serial Killer Targets London's Gay Men

by Gavin Haycock

LONDON (UPI) - A serial killer targeting London's gay male community has strangled at least five men, according to Scotland Yard police chiefs.

At a news conference called shortly before midnight Tuesday, June 16, senior officers said five deaths over the past four months were thought to have been carried out by the same person. All five victims were found naked and strangled in their beds. Police believe three of the dead men were known to be gay, but the deaths all bore strong similarities.

A man claiming to have carried out four of the five killings has called several police stations reportedly threatening to find a new victim each week.

The police appeal for more information, and a warning for gay men to treat strangers with caution came after a fifth body was found at a home in south London late Tuesday. Police have yet to release the dead man's name.

"The latest murder has heightened our awareness and our anxiety," said Chief Superintendent Ken John, who is coordinating the police inquiry. The deaths were linked "pathologically and forensically," he said. John urged people who were propositioned to be careful and let someone know where they were going.

"We owe it to the gay community to go out and warn individual practicing homosexuals, who are frequenting various pubs, restaurants, and bars in London, to be aware that somebody who is prepared to attack their community is about in London."

On March 10, the naked body of West End theater director Peter Walker, 45, was found at his apartment overlooking the River Thames. On May 30 librarian Christopher Dunn, 37, was found at his apartment in Wealdstone, north London. Last week Andrew Collier, 33, was found at a nursing home in Hackney, east London where he worked. Perry Bradley, a 35-year-old American company

director, was found in Kensington, west London on June 7.

"I am extremely frightened that this man will strike again," Detective Superintendent Albert Patrick, who is heading the Collier case, was quoted as saying Wednesday in *The Times*. "There may well be other victims we don't yet know about, and heterosexuals may also be at risk."

"It is possible the killer has AIDS and is taking revenge for his own HIV infection. I have a gut feeling the men were lured for sex and then things went badly wrong."

According to a report in Wednesday's *Sun*, the killer has repeatedly called police saying "I will kill once a week. You will never catch me."

A Scotland Yard spokeswoman would only say, "We have received a number of calls from a man. We are not prepared to go into details about what he said, but we are urging him to call us again." ▼

Alleged Marine Corps Child Rapists Get Off

United Press International

QUEBEC — Four U.S. Marines were acquitted Tuesday, June 8, of raping a 12-year-old Canadian girl in August, 1991 when the judge ruled there wasn't enough evidence to convict them.

Judge Maximilien Polak said there was no doubt the girl was sexually assaulted by four men on the Plains of Abraham, but he said there were problems identifying the culprits.

There was no immediate word on whether Polak's ruling would be appealed.

Polak said that at various times the victim had identified nine different Marines as her attackers, but there was no solid, supporting evidence.

Found innocent of sexual assault were Terry Cobb, Mark Cunningham, Clarence Morris and Leonard Pernel. The girl had identified Cobb,

22, on five different occasions.

The girl identified two of the accused out of 133 Marines within hours of the attack. The girl also identified five Marines who never were charged.

The acquitted men showed no emotion and had little comment when they left the courtroom.

Polak had dismissed some evidence in the trial as improperly obtained. This included a declaration by one of the accused implicating the others, and the fact the girl identified an object in the locker of one of the accused as belonging to one of her attackers.

The girl was attacked in August, 1991, while the U.S.S. *Guam*, an amphibious landing ship, was visiting the city — on a goodwill tour.

The court was told all four attackers fondled the girl, while one man actually raped her. ▼

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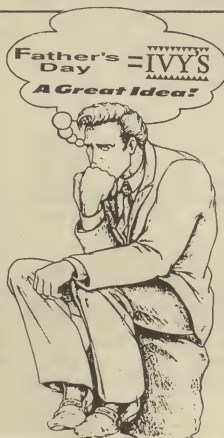
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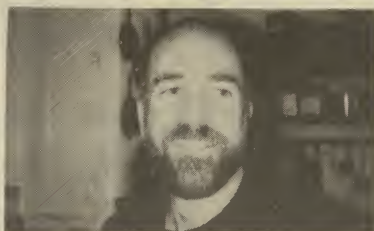
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National News

Barney Speaks Frankly

by Erin Solano

As virtually every lesbian and gay in America now knows, Representative Barney Frank (D-Massachusetts) has proposed a controversial compromise position on the right of gay and lesbian citizens to serve their country in arms. His proposal would permit service personnel to have relationships with people of the same sex, off base, off duty, and out of uniform. On base, on duty, or in uniform, they would still have to pretend to be asexual. Frank knows the proposal is unpopular among gay activists, but told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "we have to face a stark fact: if the choice before the Congress is instant equality or a statute which enacts the ban into permanent law, Congress will choose the latter."

In Frank's opinion, one obstacle to gaining civil rights for gays and lesbians is that they tend to lack lobbying experience. He believes the reason for that is because their faith in the government has been eroded by the abuse they have been subjected to because of their sexual orientation. Much as misogyny does to women, and for the same reasons, homophobia silences gay and bisexual people, creating a climate in which they can be further abused with relative impunity.

"To ask such citizens to lobby in person, on paper, and by telephone, to vote and march for their rights, is to ask them to believe in the very government that abandoned them to abuse in the first place," he said.

His analysis is seconded by Gregory King, Communications Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. "People have been beaten down so often in the last 12 years that they weren't really open to the possibility of communication with their legislators having an impact," King told the *B.A.R.* While he says more and more lesbians and gays are increasingly devoting their time and energy to winning civil and human rights

for their community, their numbers are significantly less than those of their opponents.

"Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition has 300,000 members. Concerned Women for America has 600,000. The Reverend Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition has 25,000 member churches. By contrast, the largest gay, lesbian, and bisexual political organization in the country has 70,000 members," King pointed out.

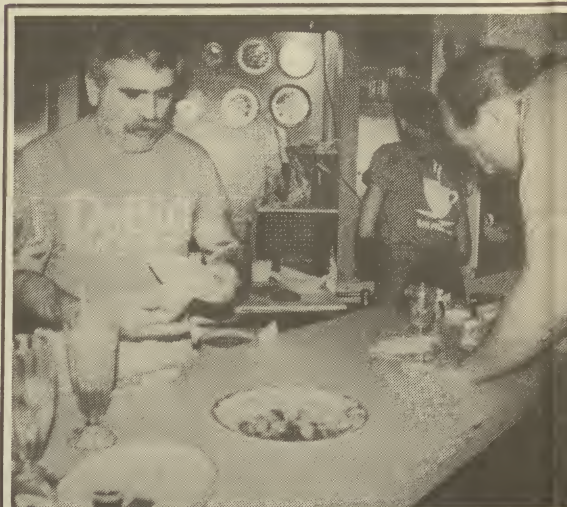
King states bluntly that most gays spend more money on a weekend drink than on paying for a lobbyist in Washington. It is his belief that most in the community do not understand that their opponents spend money to deny them their civil and human rights. If they did, he is certain that far more lesbians and gays would be more active and more willing to spend their money to further the fight.

"Considering how few people are actively involved, we get enormous bang for our buck," King said. "[But] imagine if everyone who went into a gay club this weekend contributed \$1. If everyone who bought a beer bought a [HCRF] Speak Out [politically-oriented telegram] message, we'd flood Capitol Hill with mail," he said wistfully.

By contrast, the right does exactly that. Right-wing leaders have had extensive experience in mobilizing their followers and managed to generate concerted opposition to the President's proposal to lift the military ban within days of his announcement.

While both Frank and King see the community rapidly gaining political experience and confidence, King is not bound by the traditional description of right-wing activities as political. Rather, his language is formed by the bitter realization that sometimes one person's free speech is another's life — or what remains after hate and violence have taken their toll.

"We see right-wing terrorism not just in situations like [Florida abortion clinic] Doctor [David] Gunn's murder, or



True Blue Benefit

Dottie's True Blue Cafe owners Salvatore Bovoso and Stefan Reilly held a Christmas in June fundraiser for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

the abuse women endure outside abortion clinics," King told the B.A.R. "We see it every time Jerry Falwell incites people to fear and hate us. We see it every time Jesse Helms distorts the reality of our lives. We see it every time homophobia silences form telling the truth about our lives. We see it every time people are elected to school boards and censor [our lives out of] textbooks. We see it when petitions are circulated in states to deny us our civil rights. We see it every time people ignore the intolerance on a daily basis in the United States."

It is too early to tell just exactly how the debate over military discrimination will end. King believes it will be partially lifted and some restrictions will remain. Frank says that however the debate ends, the community should ensure one permanent casualty of it is the persistent libel that homosexual and bisexual people are security risks. "Even the most virulently homophobic military men realize there is no truth to that assertion," he said. "This is important not only for people who want to work in the CIA [for example], but also for people who work for [defense contractors such as] Silicon Valley firms."

Both men offer solid advice for community progress beyond the military ban:

- Join gay political organizations. They are the only way your voice will be heard in a timely way.

- Write your representatives regularly, as soon as developments occur. When high profile issues like the gay ban come up, the pressure to take a position is felt at once. It's important to mobilize first because once a loss becomes clear, people usually pile on to the winning side. Computerized office equipment allows Congressional staffers to keep a running tally of calls and letters on particular issues. Staffers and the Senators and Representatives they work for will note a strong, sustained response.

- Promise or threaten, depending on the issue and a politician or candidate's position, to raise money and organize votes. Then deliver and let them know you have.

- Write your legislators at all levels. Urge your heterosexual relatives and friends in other districts to write. Representatives pay the most attention to letters from their own constituents. While legislators will often carry the flag even with only lukewarm support, good constituent response energizes and enthralls them. And thank them for taking the position you want.

- Know what works and what does not. Do not waste time, money, or energy on what does not, even if it temporarily makes you feel better.

Frank cautions that a 35 percent rate of opposition makes private corporations call out their public relations people, while politicians are in good shape if they have only that much opposition. And politicians actually like being embarrassed because it allows them to appear reasonable, solidifying their support.

- The single most important thing one can do is come out to at least one heterosexual person. Frank says stereotypes seldom survive confrontation. That opinion, too, is seconded by King: "Every single poll on this issue over the last ten years demonstrates people's opinions on gay issues change if they know someone who is gay or lesbian," he said.

Frank believes lesbians, gays, and bisexuals will be heard if they apply pressure correctly. This means that they, who have been so degraded and endangered, must develop a militant self-respect and translate it into political action in the broadest sense or face continued abuse. In politics or on the street, people who appear vulnerable are at a higher risk of attack than those who do not.

"I think we are engaged in a long-term process and the struggle is only in its early years. There are no final victories and no permanent defeats," King concluded. ▼



Representative Barney Frank at a 1991 GLAAD ceremony.

(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

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Crawford Wayne Barton Dies

San Francisco photographer Crawford Wayne Barton, renowned for documenting the flowering of the city's Castro District as an international gay mecca during the 1970s, died Saturday, June 12, from AIDS complications in San Francisco. He was 50.

Mr. Barton was born on a farm in Resaca, Ga., and often cited the backwoods of his rural youth as his first artistic inspiration. As a teenager he migrated to Atlanta where he studied painting in art academies. An interest in filmmaking brought him to California in the 1960s, but his talent with a still camera is what brought him acclaim.

In 1974 his work was spotlighted in a M.H. de Young Memorial Museum showing entitled "New Photography, San Francisco and the Bay Region." Much of his early photojournalism was published in the *Advocate*. He also worked on assignment for both the *Bay Area Reporter* and the *Sentinel*. His travel photographs have appeared in mainstream publications across the country, including the *Sunday Chronicle/Examiner*, *Newsday* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

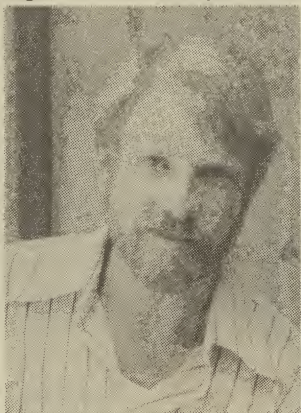
A book of his portraits, *Beautiful Men*, was published in 1976, and his photographs illustrate Malcolm Boyd's most recent collection of short stories, *Look Back in Joy*, currently in bookstores. Mr. Barton's images were featured in the Academy Award-winning documentary, *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*, and in a Time-Life volume, *Photography Year, 1975*. A collection of his work entitled *Days of Hope* will be released in September by GMP Publishers of London.

Mr. Barton's images are in private and museum collections across the country. Among the most famous are a series of color portraits of his friend, photographer Imogen Cunningham. Another, entitled *The Kiss on Castro*, features two young men dressed in a style that became known as Castro Clone (T-shirts and Levi's) sitting on the steps of a Castro Street shop on a sunny afternoon kissing tenderly. Two steps below and slightly to one side are a primly dressed middle-aged couple, perhaps tourists resting their feet, enjoying the sunshine and oblivious to the moment of passion transpiring scarcely an arm's length away. Mr. Barton's most-photographed model was his life partner, the late Larry Lara.

Occasionally, Mr. Barton found himself on the other side of the camera. He, New York photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, and British poet (and San Francisco resident) Thom Gunn are the subjects of a famous 1982 photograph by Robert Pruzan.

Mr. Barton is survived by his niece, Beverly Isackes of Austin, Tx.; his cousin, Bruce Edwards of Shreveport, La.; his mother, Rosa Barton; brother, Billy Barton, both of Calhoun, Ga.; and a sister, Joanne Williams of Dallas, Ga.

Mr. Barton's body of work has been bequeathed to the new gay and lesbian wing of the San Francisco Public Library. A private wake is planned for Saturday, June 19. Mr. Barton requested all gifts be donations to help fund the SF Library's gay and lesbian archives. ▼



AIDS in Thailand: 500 Infections a Day

by John Hail

BANGKOK (UPI) — Thailand's booming sex industry is responsible for infecting about 500 people a night with HIV, according to medical researchers.

Despite an ambitious AIDS awareness program, the disease has spread relentlessly into Thailand's heterosexual population, ravaging many rural areas with HIV infection rates of up to 20 percent.

"If nothing can be done," said Dr. Praphan Phanupak of the Red Cross AIDS Program in Thailand, "within the next three to five years we will get into the same situation that some African countries are facing. That is, ten to 30 percent of the population are infected."

Praphan described his estimate as "conservative."

He and other AIDS researchers point out Thailand's predicament is by no means unique. Other Asian countries, particularly India, will be ravaged by AIDS in the next decade.

The figure of 500 HIV infections a night was calculated by AIDS workers, assuming on a given night at least half of the estimated 200,000 infected prostitutes in Thailand are working. Of that 100,000, about half will use condoms. Of the remaining 50,000, about one percent, or 500, will transmit the virus.

Praphan said about 450,000 Thais now are believed to be HIV-positive, or nearly one percent of the 58 million population. Within three years, he said, there will be more people with full-blown AIDS than there are hospital beds.

"I don't think most of our politicians understand the extent of the problem in Thailand," Praphan said. "They are too busy fighting each other."

Ironically, the high-profile prostitutes who ply their trade in such famous red-light

districts as Bangkok's Patpong Road are far less likely to be infected than their sisters in rural areas, according to AIDS counselor Jon Ungphakorn.

In some upcountry brothels and "tea houses," he said, 70 percent or more of the women are HIV positive. "The rural men from the villages are still going to the brothels, paying their 50 baht (\$2) to have a good time and very few are using condoms," he said.

Like many of the people on the cutting edge of the anti-AIDS crusade in Thailand, Ungphakorn advocates legalizing prostitution and taxing it.

He said the main effect of the kingdom's old anti-prostitution laws is to enrich corrupt police, many of whom either own brothels or receive bribes from brothel owners.

Some of the most frightening infection figures come from Thailand's far north, where the women are reputed to be the most beautiful and AIDS awareness still is in what Ungphakorn calls the "denial phase."

In the northernmost province of Chiang Rai, 20 percent of the 18 to 22-year-old conscripts to the Royal Thai Army have tested HIV positive.

AIDS also has hit the impoverished hill tribes of northern Thailand, where parents sell their daughters into the brothels to buy consumer goods or to settle debts.

"The sex industry is still growing very rapidly," Ungphakorn said. "Awareness is very low, even in the north."

Unlike other Asian countries where increased economic development was accompanied by a gradual decrease in the flesh trade, the opposite seems true of Thailand. Prostitution permeates every level of society.

Ungphakorn said he recently interviewed a young northern girl who originally was

hired as a "high-class sex worker" in a large Bangkok hotel. "But she was tested by the agent and she was found to have been infected with HIV. Then she was diverted to the tea house (patronized by poorer customers)."

According to a recently published survey, nearly half the 2,801 male respondents said their first sexual experience was with a prostitute.

The practice of "pai thiao sopheni," or dallying with prostitutes, is still considered a rite of passage for many Thai men. Fathers often initiate sons in the custom.

As a result, a majority of AIDS sufferers in Thailand are male. But this is changing.

"Soon there will be more women infected than men," said Dr. Werasit Sittitai of the Thai Red Cross AIDS program. "And the main cause of infection will be through sexual transmission."

Besides "bonded sex workers," as girls sold into prostitution are called, those at greatest risk are the wives and girlfriends of men who visit prostitutes, according to Thai researchers.

In the northern city of Chiang Mai, hospitals report the average rate of HIV infection for pregnant women is five to six percent, with rates as high as 20 percent in some facilities.

According to Steven Kraus, a Bangkok-based technical officer for the World Health Organization, Asia still is in the early stages of the AIDS pandemic.

"Things are bad and they are going to get worse," he said. "We expect that by the year 2000 there will be something like a half-million AIDS cases in Asia."

He said Thailand has been singled out among the hardest hit countries, partially because the government has been more open to research studies in recent years.

But in other countries such as Burma, the Philippines and India, where prostitution is deeply ingrained, AIDS is expected to take a devastating toll.

Among the areas where the disease is spreading the fastest, he said, is the Indian city of Bombay, which has a prostitute population of about 1 million. ▼

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Their name is mud

The mud people frolicked in downtown San Francisco June 11. This puzzling, playful group of primitives has appeared annually since 1986.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

Community Anti-Hate Violence Resources

by Community United
Against Violence Staff

Gay-bashing is a personal concern for all of us, and a major political concern of our community. There have been numerous efforts, beginning in the 1970s with the "Butterfly Brigade," to try to stop hate crimes against lesbians and gays. Today there are numerous groups working on the interconnected issues of hate crimes, hate violence, and education against homophobia. When it comes to direct action to stop gay-bashing, it can be confusing to figure out who's who on the street. The following descriptions of the different partners fighting hate violence and homophobia in San Francisco and the Bay Area will hopefully help.

While it may seem like a lot of different groups are doing the same thing, it must be remembered, that as long as people continue to get bashed, we can never have too many people or groups working to promote or guarantee the safety of transgender, bisexual, lesbian and gay people. And each of us has a different style and different approach. The message is: The more the merrier and the more the safer!

If you have questions for any of the groups listed, feel free to call them at the numbers provided. If you want to volunteer — all of us always need volunteers — please feel free to talk to any of us when we are on the streets or, again, call us.

Community United Against Violence:

CUAV is probably the oldest of the groups at 14 years. CUAV has several programs that include services to survivors, the Lesbian and Gay Speakers Bureau and community education and media campaigns. Also important is CUAV's Safety Monitor program. The Safety Monitors, those cute guys n' gals in the CUAV T-shirts monitoring the parades, Halloween, Folsom Street Fair and other events provide a visible deterrent to problems and help to de-escalate potential crises. The success of CUAV's Safety Monitoring Program is in large part dependent upon the visibility and sheer numbers of the monitors. At events like Halloween, we try to field as many as 100 monitors. At events such as Roberta Achtenberg's street party, we field fewer, but still play a crucial role in helping to manage excited crowds and ensure the party remains a party.

Through our Safety Monitoring Program, CUAV cooperates extensively with the Street Patrol, Sisters and SF Police. If you are interested in becoming a CUAV safety

monitor, or volunteering for any of CUAV's other programs, call Rosa at 777-5500. We especially need people to volunteer Parade day to help us manage the collection barrels. Call call call!

Street Patrol:

Familiar for three and a half years, this all-volunteer community group patrols the Castro every Friday and Saturday night in their fabulous fuchsia berets. They provide a strong queer presence on the street to deter violence; they work to de-escalate tense situations, and they intervene in and stop gay-bashings. Street Patrol works closely with CUAV to monitor hate crimes, and collaborates with the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in free whistle campaigns.

Street Patrol offers free self-defense classes for the community (Sundays at 3 PM in Collingwood Park) and offers security for events and marches. For information, or to join, look for us at Rolling Pin Donuts at midnight Fridays and 10 p.m. Saturdays; or call 985-7423

Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence:

Equally familiar faces to San Francisco's scene are the Sisters. Over the past years, the Sisters have been extremely active in the fight to end hate violence. Their whistle campaigns have provided many people the whistles they need to help them to feel more empowered and to ward off attacks. Also important is the Sisters' safe house campaign. Look for their signs in store front windows. These signs designate the store as a "safe house," a place you can flee to escape bashing or to find immediate assistance if you have just been bashed or assaulted. If you are interested in finding out more about the Sisters' activities, give them a call at: (415) 864-6722.

Streetcats Street Patrol:

This group has recently moved to San Francisco from West Hollywood. They intend to begin patrols in their jeep Tuesdays through Fridays as soon as they have raised sufficient funds. Their goal is to prevent bashings by being visible and to intervene in bashings when they are occurring. The Streetcats also will attempt to catch the bashers immediately after a bashing.

Members of CUAV and the Street Patrol recently met with Streetcats volunteers in an effort to coordinate our work and to ensure that we will all collaborate together. Our unified goal is to make the streets safe for us all. The Streetcats Street Patrol can usually be found at their blue jeep (frequently parked near 18th and Castro). For information call: 1-800-330-CATS. ▼

CUAV is a non-profit agency that works to prevent hate violence against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons and promotes personal and community safety. The agency also provides counseling, advocacy and referral to people who are bashed or who are battered in same sex domestic violence. For services or more information, call (415) 777-5500. If you are bashed or battered and need help, call our 24-hour CrisisLine at (415) 333-HELP. The agency's offices are located at 973 Market Street, Suite 500, San Francisco. ▼

Speak Your Mind About the 'Q' Word

by Dennis Conkin

The controversy around "Year of The Queer," the theme of this year's Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade, will be the subject of a community forum June 19 from 1-3 p.m. at the Women's Building.

The forum, sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, will explore a range of viewpoints about the theme.

"Some people may be put off by this debate, and for others the debate is either outdated or unimportant. But for me the language of identity is never fixed. In a lot of different ways, I think we are asking questions about who we are," said Al Kielwasser, a GLAAD spokesperson.

The forum will feature video interviews, individuals from panelists, and a moderated community discussion about the controversy.

Among the panelists will be author Hunter Madsen, Donald Tarver, and activists Angela Padilla, Annette Gaudino, John Woods, and Jonathan Katz.

"There is no question this year's theme has generated more discussion surrounding the parade than almost anything in memory," said parade co-chair Ggreg Taylor. "At the same time, once we

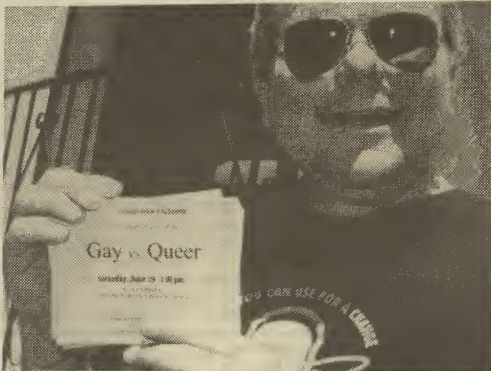
finish the discussions there are many other issues that are much more important to our community than the theme of the parade. For example, the city's budget and the potential for AIDS cuts.

"And on a national level there is need to hold President Clinton accountable to appoint an AIDS czar."

Taylor also said the threat from the far right is a more serious issue. "We as the parade organizers have taken on the far right in a very direct in-your-face manner with the Jesse Helms television sports and our letter to Jerry Fal-

well. The threat from these people are much more important than the theme of the parade," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

GLAAD does not take a position on the controversy, but recognizes that "the current level of rhetoric" surrounding the issue has had a negative impact on the community and its institutions and organizations, and feels that it has a duty to raise the issue publicly and provide the forum with advocates on all sides of the debate, according to Allen Carson, a GLAAD spokesperson. ▼



GLAAD will hold a town meeting June 19 to discuss "gay vs. queer." GLAAD Co-chair Patrick Tifer (above) invites all to attend.

(Photo: Judi Parks)



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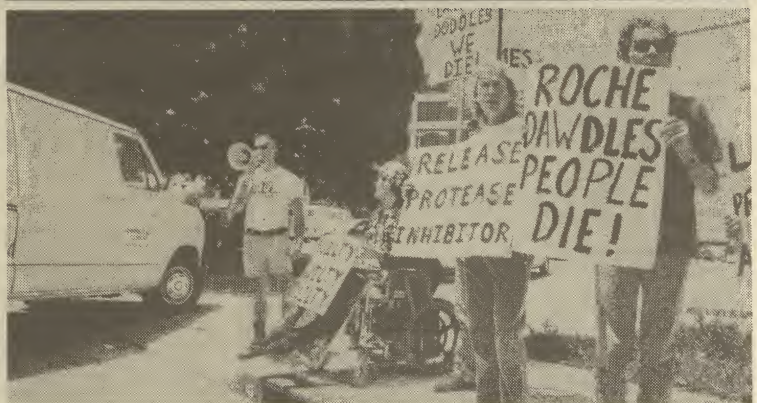
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Community News



ACT UP East Bay protests Hoffmann-LaRoche's slowness.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

ACT UP Tells Hoffman-LaRoche: Stop Inhibiting the Inhibitors

by Judi Parks

More than 25 demonstrators spent their lunch hours Tuesday, June 8, creating a wall of signs along the driveway of pharmaceutical manufacturer Hoffmann-LaRoche in Emeryville. Shouting "Shame, shame, shame," they got the attention of passing cars and business people, if not necessarily the company's policy makers.

The protesters were angry about Hoffman's failure to release clinical trial results they say were completed six months ago, and its failure to apply for a parallel-track program to allow some patients to receive the company's drugs before they are approved for marketing. Protests against Hoffmann were also held in Berlin at the International AIDS Conference.

ACT UP East Bay, which organized the demo, was joined by members of ACT UP Golden Gate and Berkeley City Councilwoman Maudelle Shirek. Shirek, a nine-year veteran of the Council, told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "I think it is very important that we try to get health care for people who truly need it, and people with AIDS truly need it. I'm supporting them. We [the City of Berkeley] were the first in the nation to get out information packets about AIDS."

According to John Iversen of East Bay ACTUP, the action was part of an international effort to get Hoffmann-La Roche to release tat inhibitor and protease inhibitor — highly promising drugs in the fight against AIDS — for compassionate use on a parallel track, and also to immediately release the findings of protease inhibitor studies, which Iversen claims were finished last December.

"They have not really given anyone any reason why [they have not released the results]," he told the *B.A.R.* "Other companies are also developing their own protease inhibitors — at least two other major [manufacturers of] pharmaceuticals. I don't know why they don't tell us if it works, if it doesn't work. I think the profit motive has something to do with this."

However, Hoffmann representative Diane Donlan, assistant director of public policy and communications, confid-

ed during a telephone interview with the *B.A.R.* that data from the protease inhibitor studies was scheduled to be released Thursday, June 10, at the International AIDS Conference in Berlin.

There has been great interest in the scientific community in the tat inhibitor, due to the fact that this class of drugs could not only prevent HIV from infecting new cells, but shut down HIV activity in already infested cells. If the tat gene cannot be reproduced, then the virus cannot replicate either.

The protease inhibitor operates in much the same way as the tat inhibitor. The virus needs the protease enzyme to replicate and if the inhibitor can stop the enzyme from replicating, the virus will not be able to reproduce.

"These [inhibitors] will stop it at various stages of development, unlike AZT, ddI and ddC, which only did it at one stage," explained Iversen.

Right drug, wrong company?

According to *Aids Treatment News*, "Tat inhibitors should be fairly easy to discover because an efficient screening test for finding them is readily available. ... No one is doing such screening, however, since there is no commercial incentive. Instead the whole pharmaceutical industry seems to be waiting to see what happens with the only tat inhibitor drug now in human testing — code named Ro-24-7429, being developed by Hoffmann-La Roche. ...

"In the middle of a major worldwide epidemic, the most promising approach to treatment development has been abandoned to a single project with a single drug in a single company. The problem is that the whole world waits for what might be the wrong tat drug, and almost certainly is the wrong company."

Hoffmann is viewed by activists as the "wrong company," because of the length of time it has taken to get drugs on the market; its failure to cooperate with the NIH when asked for samples, so the NIH could conduct its own research; and its refusal to put drugs on parallel track until they near the time for commercial approval.

AIDS Treatment News reported that Hoffmann, which has held the tat inhibitor

patent for five years, decided to abandon it in 1991 just as the drug was going into trials at Johns Hopkins University. Within a month Hoffmann had offered it for sale, but when Burroughs-Wellcome tried to buy it, Hoffmann pulled it off the market, deciding to develop it itself.

According to Iversen, an example of Hoffman's lethargy is that "Bristol Myers started drug development with ddI a year after Hoffmann started with ddC, and got it approved a year before Hoffmann got ddC approved. I don't know why Hoffmann plays around with people's lives. If either of these things work, it could save a lot of lives, enhance a lot of lives and extend a lot of lives. It is sad that they are dawdling on it"

ACT UP Boston believes that Hoffmann-La Roche has enough data to select an appropriate starting dose of protease inhibitor (as opposed to a proven "effective" dose) to meet parallel track requirements. Member David Peck, a management consultant and chief negotiator with Hoffmann for ACT UP, has challenged the company's rationale for not releasing data collected in their three studies, which he believes the company has held since December.

When the *B.A.R.* asked Hoffmann's Donlan to respond, she said, "In any clinical study it takes a while to determine what the dose is. We only have three preliminary Phase 1 and Phase 2 studies, and we just now have activity data [on protease inhibitors]. It is quite early. We have just completed these three studies, and we are just now providing the data. It is the only data on activity that we have. It is incorrect that we have had data since December. We have only had it very recently because the investigators had to discuss the data and complete the analysis."

ACT UP contends that activity data is not necessary to meet the requirements for parallel track.

When asked what date the analysis was completed, she responded, "I actually don't have the date. I don't have the exact date." When questioned further, she refused even to conjecture about an approximate date the company may have received the data. ▼

'Without a Compass'

Berlin Hosts the AIDS Conference From Hell

by Bruce Mirken

"You've got a job. I've got a job. Everything's fine."

—Conversation overheard at the Ninth International Conference on AIDS.

Berlin, a city that wears its heroic and horrible history like the scars on the face of a proud but battered old soldier, hosted what may have been the most surreal and depressing AIDS conference yet June 6-11. The mammoth international gathering felt like the battle of Waterloo, as scripted by Lewis Carroll on a bad trip.

It wasn't just that the medical news was almost uniformly grim or that the atmosphere ranged from surly to downright bizarre. Many knowledgeable observers went away feeling that they had just watched the edifice built during the last eight or nine years of AIDS research crash and burn, leaving precious few survivors.

The opening night reception confirmed the sense of disconnection from reality. Thousands of doctors, scientists and drug company public relations representatives swigged hundreds of gallons of beer and wine under a few scattered panels from the Names Project Quilt, apparently hung there to remind the gatherers that AIDS was the reason why everyone had assembled. Spread out in one place, the Quilt is awesome, but in Berlin's giant International Congress Center, the panels were fragmented and

distant, dwarfed and forlorn, more like an interior decorator's touch, a little piece of AIDS chic, than a monument to fallen loved ones. Meanwhile the band — a third-rate lounge act at best — massaged pop chestnuts like "All of Me" and "Love Me Tender." One would be forgiven for expecting it, like the band on the Titanic, to end the show by singing "Nearer My God to Thee" as the ship went down.

Snowballing anger

Wandering through the reception was a somewhat forlorn-looking Victor Zonana, formerly of the *Los Angeles Times* and now a spokesman for the federal Department of Health and Human Services. Zonana, a decent man who left the *Times* to work for HHS out of a genuine conviction that the good guys were finally in charge, was handing out a welcoming statement from HHS Secretary Donna Shalala.

But the statement, full of pleasant generalities, did little to change the AIDS community's snowballing disappointment with the Clinton administration, which has yet to keep any of the president's major campaign promises on AIDS: To initiate a "Manhattan Project" to speed research; to implement the 30 recommendations of the National AIDS Commission; or to appoint an "AIDS Czar" to whip the government's efforts into shape. And many were furious that it had taken a court order to force Clinton to



Activists dance and celebrate following an action to "Tear Down the Walls of AIDS" on the day before the AIDS conference began.
(Photo: Rick Gerharter)

free 158 HIV-infected Haitian political refugees whom the government had imprisoned in a squalid, rat-infested concentration camp at Guantanamo Bay. Zonana went about his business gamely, but he had the look of a man who knew his task was hopeless.

The tone of the scientific proceedings was neatly, if inadvertently, summed up by Dr. Dani Bolognesi of Duke University in a talk surveying the state of HIV vaccine research. A large number of potential vaccines have been or are being tested, he said, and the good news is that a great many of them have proven to be both safe and capable of generating some sort of immune response. The bad news is that we still don't

have a clue what kind of immune response will protect people against the virus: almost everyone exposed to HIV produces an immune response, but the virus is still able to overpower the body's natural defenses. How and why remain mysteries.

So researchers have only the vaguest idea of just what it is they need to get the immune system to do. "Vaccine developers," explained Bolognesi, "have, in a sense, been forced to navigate without a compass."

But wisely or not, this area of research continues to gobble up piles of money: nearly \$89 million just in government funds this year, with a considerably larger expenditure slated for 1994. During the conference, New York's

Treatment Action Group (TAG) released a disturbing report — based on interviews with 36 top AIDS researchers — that charged, "many of the scientists thought we were far from having a viable candidate [vaccine] ... and some doubted that we ever will. It was commonly felt that pushing for large-scale testing of vaccines at this point was motivated primarily by political considerations and had little basis in scientific reality." Without a compass, indeed.

A chronicle of disaster

But if vaccine research looks shaky, the presentations on anti-HIV drugs amounted to a chronicle of disaster. The news about both the anti-retroviral drugs now in use —

(Continued on next page)

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For more information about these and other studies contact HIVCare Client Coordinator Drew Catapano at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

Ninth International AIDS Conference

Berlin

(Continued from previous page)

AZT, ddI and ddC — and the experimental compounds that many assumed would form the next generation of drugs, was almost universally depressing. And along the way researchers and AIDS activists alike got a jolting lesson on how little we really know and how easy it is to massage data to make a study say almost whatever you want it to.

It has been standard for some time to recommend one or more of the current drugs to anyone with HIV whose count of the immune system cells known as CD4 cells drops below 500 per cubic milliliter, even if the person is symptom-free. But a series of papers, including a more detailed report from the controversial British Concorde study that recently cast doubt on the early use of AZT, chopped the legs out from under this practice.

The reports, including another European study known as Alpha, which looked at ddI; the American trial known as ACTG 155, looking at AZT vs. ddC vs. AZT and ddC together; and a follow-up report on an earlier AZT study called ACTG 019, left little room for cheer. Together, they painted a picture of a group of drugs that don't do very much, don't do it for very long, and often have serious side effects. No one produced any data showing that early use of the current anti-retrovirals prolongs life.

Ferd Eggan, L.A. city AIDS coordinator and himself a person living with HIV, pronounced blunt judgment. The information presented, he declared, "proves definitively that early intervention with the anti-retrovirals we have doesn't work." British researcher Dr. Anthony Pinching characterized the benefits of present drugs as "marginal." Even Martin Delaney of San Francisco's Project Inform, long a strong sup-



Several hundred activists marched through central Berlin before the AIDS conference began. Women and AIDS was the theme of the march, which drew people from throughout Europe and North America.

(Photo: Rick Gerhartner)

porter of early anti-HIV therapy, backed off significantly. "The ugly reality of AIDS," he noted, "is that there are no answers right now."

Just about the only cheerful viewpoint came from AZT manufacturer Burroughs-Wellcome, whose PR people, in frantic spin-control mode, churned out press releases and newsletters that practically stood the data on its head, trying to make it look favorable.

Meanwhile, big parts of what was once almost universally accepted about study results began to evaporate. It had long been assumed that if taking anti-retrovirals caused an overall boost in study subjects' CD4 counts, that would

translate into longer survival; several investigators in Berlin, however, echoed Concorde's finding of no clear connection.

Are your drugs working?

At another session, Dr. James Neaton of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis cast serious doubt on the marker most clinical trials use to judge whether or not an anti-HIV drug is working: the time it takes participants to either die or have a so-called "AIDS-defining event," one of the opportunistic infections or conditions that trigger an AIDS diagnosis. In a devastating, elegantly simple presentation, he illustrated the folly

(Continued on next page)

UCSF Researcher Studies Long-Term Survivors for Clues

United Press International

BERLIN — Researchers have reported that an immune cell that appears to stop HIV from multiplying may hold the key to long-term survival of the disease.

Researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, discovered the specialized cell that prevents HIV from changing into more destructive and resistant forms. "New approaches to the treatment of HIV infection should focus on strengthening the natural anti-viral response of this type of immune cell," Dr. Jay Levy of UCSF said Wednesday, June 9, at the Ninth International Conference on AIDS.

Studies indicate the body's assault on HIV is weakened as the infection progresses, most likely due to changes in the regulation of the immune response.

His ongoing surveys of HIV-infected patients who have survived at least ten years with no major immune

cell loss may provide clues to ways of prolonging the activity of the virus-stopping cells, Levy said.

The cell identified by Levy and his team is an activated form of a group of lymphocytes called CD8 immune cells. Besides keeping HIV from multiplying, these activated cells eliminate other HIV-infected cells.

"It is important to pursue treatment strategies that stimulate the cellular immune response against HIV, including the development of therapeutic vaccines and of drugs that modulate the immune response and sustain CD8 antiviral activity," Levy said.

If the cells' effect can be enhanced and prolonged, the virus might be destroyed or suppressed by the patient's own immune response or might succumb to additional treatments before resistant virus forms emerge, he said.

Levy and his colleagues found the specialized CD8 cells make a previously unknown cytokine — a type of

protein secreted by the immune system's T cells.

Test-tube tests indicate the cytokine stops HIV from replicating in cells.

Studies showed long-term survivors maintained high numbers of the activated cells.

The findings suggest several approaches to therapy based on boosting the CD8 response and stopping HIV from multiplying, Levy said.

One is to design drugs to attach to and, thereby, stop the signal carried by the cytokines responsible for the loss of CD8 cell activity, he said.

"Several laboratories, including ours, are pursuing this strategy," Levy said.

He is also studying the direct approach of making the factor as a treatment.

"In addition, finding a means to increase the ability of the CD8 cells to release this anti-HIV factor merits close attention," Levy said. ▼

Ninth International AIDS Conference



Margaret Fischl

Berlin

(Continued from previous page)

of treating all 19 such conditions as if they are equal, when some are much more life-threatening than others, and of effectively discounting later infections by looking only at the time it takes to have the first one. It's not just what results you get, it's how you count the numbers — one activist joked that a clever statistician could make any study prove that elephants fly — and Neaton made it painfully clear that researchers aren't counting the numbers very well.

Another prominent researcher, the University of Miami's Dr. Margaret Fischl, gave what turned out to be a textbook lesson in how to slant data. Fischl presented the results of ACTG 155, a study designed to determine whether combined use of AZT and ddC is more effective than either drug alone in patients with fewer than 300 CD4 cells who have previously taken AZT. The simple answer is that there was no difference, but you'd never have known it from Fischl's presentation. Fischl spent the entire time discussing the differences between three subgroups of the study subjects, divided based on their CD4 numbers at the start of the trial, emphasizing that those with CD4 counts between 150 and 300 appeared to show a slight benefit from combination treatment.

But the division into subgroups wasn't part of the study's original plan, and it is an axiom of research that such an after-the-fact analysis that departs from the question you originally set out to ask is inherently suspect — a fishing expedition for something that proves what you want to prove rather than an honest interpretation of the data. Dur-

ing the question-and-answer period activists Mark Harrington of TAG and David Barr of Gay Men's Health Crisis angrily confronted Fischl. "The study doesn't show what you said it showed," a furious Harrington shouted.

"We've learned what we're going to learn about these drugs and they're just not very good," added Barr. "Let's stop wasting time with these and find something better."

The activists pointed out Fischl's long association with the companies manufacturing the two drugs. Derek Hodel, treatment issues director for the AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C., had no doubt that the researcher's biases were showing. "There's no question, given that the answer to the original question was not even presented," he commented. "We have to be very careful about how information is interpreted and then disseminated."

The good news — sort of

What cheerful news there was in Berlin consisted almost entirely of lab results that, in the best-case scenario, are some years away from producing a usable treatment. UC San Francisco's Dr. Jay Levy, for example, is hot on the trail of a substance produced by CD8 cells that seems to protect at least some people against HIV. But to continue the research, he said, would take "hundreds of thousands of dollars," funding he has not yet been able to scare up.

The real good news from Berlin is that that may now start to change. "The failure of most existing research is so complete they've got to try something new," commented the head of one community-based research organization.

British researcher Anthony Pinching voiced similar sentiments: "An acknowledgement of how little we know is an absolute prerequisite for moving forward." ▼

Women's Rights Seen As Key to AIDS Control

United Press International

BERLIN — An AIDS expert from Africa says women must have greater control over sexual decisions if the disease is to be controlled.

Social and economic factors — not the choices made by individuals — are responsible for the explosive spread of the AIDS epidemic, said Dr. Mary T. Bassett of the University of Zimbabwe.

She spoke at the Ninth International Conference on AIDS in Berlin, Thursday, June 10.

Control of sexual decisions is important not only in the

developing world, where 80 percent of HIV infections occur, Bassett said. Empowerment of women is important in controlling the heterosexual spread of AIDS in the United States and in other industrial countries.

Many women are unable to insist their male partners use condoms or take other steps to halt the spread of HIV.

The recently approved female condom has been hailed as a step forward because it will help women in male-dominated communities by giving women control over a barrier to sexual infection. ▼

Friday

(Continued from page 9)

Freedom Day Parade at R. Kassman Piano, 131 Franklin St., beginning at 9 a.m. (\$25; call 752-3257 for info)

Delegates to the 205th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. (with a 2.3 million-member denomination) last week backed President Clinton in his bid to allow gays in the military; and, yes, I am told that Senator Goldwater is indeed a Presbyterian.

The *Los Angeles Times* ran a feature story last week on Senator Dianne Feinstein's staff problems (14 aides have quit or been fired in her first six months) prompting one well-known local politico to brand Feinstein the Wendy Nelder of the U. S. Senate; so, what the hell, she is still one of my favorites (but then I've never worked for her) and she will kick any Republican's ass who runs against her next year.

John Laird is indeed our candidate to take over the Assembly seat of newly-elected Congressman Sam Farr; the 27th Assembly seat covers Monterey and Santa Cruz counties (Laird headquarters: 408-454-9243)

In Nevada last week, certain sex acts between consenting adults of the same sex became legal under a bill OK'd by an Assembly panel; they would still remain felonies if done publicly, however, and the full Assembly now must vote on the measure.

Am I the only one that



Assembly Speaker Willie Brown

wishes demagogue Ross Perot would just shut up and go away, or what? Someone should remind this billionaire egomaniac that he came in third last year and it's a little early to start campaigning for the '96 nomination; though with all the big-name Republicans running up to New Hampshire lately one would wonder (meanwhile, those D.C. insiders supposedly 'in the know' are predicting that Perot will run as a Republican, if at all, the next time around.)

A book I do recommend: the late Arthur Ashe's *Days of Grace* (Alfred A. Knopf, publisher, and now available in bookstores).

One of the latest local po-

litical rumors has state Senator Milton Marks and Assemblyman John Burton, both strapped by the term limits law, trading jobs and running for each others current seats in order to keep their Sacramento jobs.

Senators Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer and Representative Nancy Pelosi are the co-chairs of a dinner-fundraiser for Lt. Governor candidate Phil Angelides June 24 at the Fairmont (\$22.50; 777-2340 for info).

Incidentally, financial disclosure released last week from the U. S. Senate show Barbara Boxer and her husband to be worth \$3 million while Dianne and spouse Dick Blum are millionaires seven times over (aaahhhhh, the good life)

A personal note to the letter-writer who tells me he was "offended" by my remarks last column about Speaker Willie Brown and the tobacco industry lobbyists ("Speaker Brown never took a dishonest dollar in his life," writes the Willie admirer) I never claimed he did, but a recent study of the tobacco industry's political spending shows the speaker received more campaign contributions from the tobacco industry in the last election than any other politician in America — and that includes even those in the House and U. S. Senate

On a bright note, 35,000 people braved the rainy weather in Boston recently to raise more than \$3 million in that city's AIDS walk, making it Massachusetts' largest AIDS fund-raiser ever. ▼

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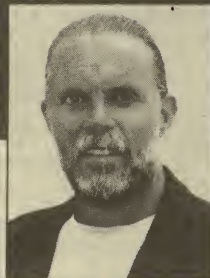
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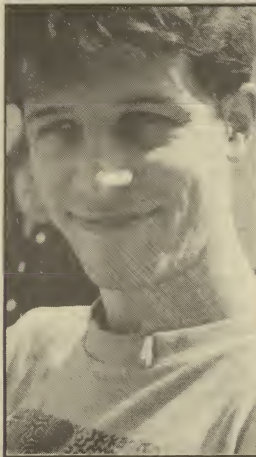
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JEFF ERNTHALLER (1962-1993)

One of the key people involved in Josie's Cabaret & Juice Joint, Jeff was the multi-talented and handsome guy who helped create our electrical and sound systems. He delighted us, both onstage and off, with his wit and talent. We love him and miss him. Friends are invited to join us at Josie's on Sunday, June 20 from 4-6 PM for a celebration of his life.

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Jeffrey N. Ingels

Dec. 21, 1957-April 13, 1993

Jeff died peacefully in his sleep on the evening of Tuesday, April 13, at Coming Home Hospice after a courageous three-year battle with multiple AIDS-related illnesses.

Jeff was born and raised in the Central Valley community of Oakdale, near Modesto. A resident of San Francisco since 1980, Jeff leaves behind many friends and family members including his mom, Billie, who was constantly by his side during the final months of his life.

Jeff was well known in the community of the San Francisco Tavern Guild bowling leagues at Park Bowl. An avid bowler and past co-director of several San Francisco No Tap Invitational Tournaments, SFNTIT, his enthusiasm, energy and commitment will be greatly missed.

With a smile that could melt hearts, a sense of humor that was sometimes "twisted" and an incredible love for life, Jeff will be missed by all those who knew him.

On Saturday, April 26, his family in Modesto as well as his friends in San Francisco had farewell parties to remember all the good times we shared with Jeff. It was one big party just like Jeff wanted.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution in Jeff's memory should contact the San Francisco Visiting Nurse's & Coming Home Hospice, Project Open Hand, or the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Ed Reidy, Jr.

Dec. 30, 1950-March 4, 1993

Ed, a long time resident of San Francisco, died at a Shanti hospice on March 4, 1993.

He was well-known in this city he loved. All of us who loved him will miss running into him. He always seemed to be out and about exuding his own special energy.

Ed was opinionated, loyal, friendly, giving and loving to those who were given the gift to know him.

A long time member of Alcoholics Anonymous, he was grateful to die sober.

Father Tom Hayes, who attended to his spiritual needs the last two weeks of his life, commented on the fact that he had accepted that his death was coming soon. He was serene in this knowledge and welcomed with a great deal of gratitude the last rites and consolations of his religious tradition and the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Ed was buried in Boston, Massachusetts next to his grandparents.

Ed has left us, but has not vanished from our lives. ▽

Mykel John Mengert

June 5, 1993

Mykel John Mengert, 32, died peacefully at his home in Oakland on June 5th, surrounded by loved ones. He followed his lover James Bridges and their cat, Tuna. He loved travelling and enjoyed several trips a year. He served in the United States Air Force from 1979 to 1981, and was honorably discharged for being a proud homosexual.

Mykel was raised in Wisconsin. He moved to San Francisco in 1985, where he was a graphic designer for March & McLennan. He was active in the theatre, appearing in several productions in San Francisco, including *Pulp Circumstance* and *View From The Bay* at Theatre Rhinoceros.

Mykel was the bitchiest waiter who ever spat in your glass of iced tea. He hated the queens across the way who stole his wind chimes while he was in New Orleans.

He is survived by Jim's family, Joyce Tanner, Jessica Keiser and Tim Bridges; his immediate family in Wisconsin; his mother, Pat Neuy; brothers, James, Timothy, Robert and Paul; sister, Merry Arndt; father, William; mother, Joan; sisters, Tracy Narf and Rachel Fisher; cats, Melba Toast, Bandit, and Catherine the Great.

Mykel's friends will host a memorial service on June 19 at 69 Thousand Oaks, Oakland, at 1 p.m. Please call (510) 814-2269 for directions.

Mykel, we loved your bright spirit and your twisted sense of humor. We'll miss you. ▽

Mark Gilmore

June 24, 1946-June 4, 1993

Mark Gilmore of San Francisco died Friday, June 4, at the home of his brother, Peter, in Beverly, Massachusetts, of complications related to AIDS. He was 46 years old.

Born in New York City on June 24, 1946, he was educated in New York City schools, receiving his Bachelor's degree from the City College of New York.

He worked as a legal secretary for the firm of Whitman and Ranson in New York City, and later for the firm of Frandzel and Share in San Francisco.

His most personally meaningful work was for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, where he served as head of Editorial Production for BETA (Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS), and as a counselor for people living with, and/or wanting information about AIDS.

He was an avid sci-fi reader and Trekker, and a lover of theater (especially musicals), opera, and teddy bears. He was deeply and actively committed to the belief that gay people can and should be openly accepted by family, friends, and co-workers, and was himself a devoted and vital family member, friend, and worker.

Mark is survived by his longtime companion, Sherman Clerke, of San Francisco; his loving parents, Adele and George Gilmore of Sunrise, Florida; his devoted brothers, David of San Francisco, and Peter of Beverly, Massachusetts; nieces, Rachel, Jennifer and Meghan; nephews, Joshua and Benjamin; his loving aunts and many cousins; and many loving friends.

All participated in his care during his last six months, especially his nieces and nephews and his primary caregiver and sister-in-law, Elaine. Everyone benefitted deeply from his love, his unique wit, and his courage, in his life and in his passing.

A celebration of Mark's life took place on Monday, June 7, at his late residence in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Mark would appreciate donations in his memory to an AIDS organization of choice, or the City of Hope, Nob Hill Chapter, Sunrise, Florida. ▽

Enrique de la Rosa

Oct. 1, 1961-June 3, 1993

With a squeeze to his partner Michael Alexander's hand and a final struggle, Enrique ended his difficult eight month course with AIDS.

He was well supported by Michael, friends, family, his mother and by the doctors, nurses, and other providers who cared for him. He had the opportunity to say good-bye to many and expressed his acceptance of death and his desire that everyone carry on and enjoy life to its fullest. We have the example of how he embraced life to follow as we learn to live without his physical presence.

Enrique was known to most people through his work at La Raza Graphics Center in the Mission. He served as Gallery Manager/Education Coordinator and shared his aesthetic sense of cultural knowledge to the artists and visitors who used the center. His pride in his Mexican and "American" culture and his desire to lead people to greater cultural understanding led to his co-founding the tertulia program at La Raza Graphics. These bilingual cultural discussions with food, poetry, and ritual

stimulated and challenged all who attended. Another vehicle for these interests was his singing with the Coro Hispano de San Francisco. He enjoyed learning songs from Aztec, Mayan, Spanish, and Mexican traditions.

His background for these interests came from his education in International Relations and Comparative Political Systems. He was educated at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (U.N.A.M.) and the Sorbonne. After graduating from the Sorbonne and travelling to the then-U.S.S.R., he taught at U.N.A.M. until moving to the United States in 1989.

Enrique was the life of the party, dancing, joking, and laughing with whomever could keep up with him. He was a linguist and would surprise people with his knowledge of languages and his quick wit. His love of cooking included a desire that everything be cooked authentically and to perfection. His home was vitally important to him and he put effort into his altars and candles until the end. The quantity of his life was short, but the quality was unparalleled.

A celebration of Enrique's life will be held on Sunday, June 20 at 2 p.m. at La Raza Graphics Center, 938 Valencia Street. For more information call 563-3219. ▽

Gene Arnaiz, Jr.

June 22, 1952-April 30, 1993

Our beloved Gene passed away in the early morning hours of April 30, 1993, at his ranch in San Andreas. Surrounded by his close circle of family and friends to the very end, he fought a valiant and courageous battle against AIDS.

Born in Ventura, California, Gene was the great-great-grandson of Don Luis Antonio Arguello, the first governor of Alta California, while under Mexican rule and his great-great-grandmother was Marie de la Concepcion, the fabled woman of California legend of which Point Conception is named for.

His family at one time had vast land holdings in what is now San Diego. And Gene's life was never more noble, from his youthful experience of travelling and preaching the gospel to his years of personal friendship with Betty Hutton, screen star of *Annie Get Your Gun*, and *Greatest Show on Earth*, among others, to his transformation of the Hexagon House in Guerneville to the woods resort and one of the Sonoma County's hottest night clubs. He even designed the beautiful hexagon dance floor which many may recall. From the Russian River to Los Angeles and Palm Springs where as a property investor he restored many homes and estates to their once original elegance, Gene was a quiet and discerning nature and always walked with his God. He loved his family and friends and his beautiful smile and kind heart will never be forgotten. ▽

Matthew Sterling Reed, Jr.

Aug. 22, 1952-May 3, 1993

Born in Marianna, Arkansas; raised in Los Angeles; grew up in San Francisco.

Matthew was a CPA, a community participant, and a beloved friend to a large segment of the City's Gay culture. A member of the National Association of Black Accountants, he travelled extensively throughout Latin America.

Matthew died of AIDS, having lost his lover of ten years, Felipe Benitez, to AIDS in July, 1990.

He is survived by his loving mother, Dorothy Reed Clark; stepfather, Morrell Lark of Marianna; sister, Juanita (Harold) Billingsley; and four nieces and nephews of Atlanta; and a ton of friends in California.

Special thanks to Tom, Thomas, Rita, Andrew, Art and Maria for their love and support. A memorial service was held May 16 in S.F. ▽

Judge Rand Schraeder, 46, Dies

Rand Schraeder, one of California's first openly gay judges, died of AIDS-related illnesses on Sunday, June 13, in Century City, California. He was 48.

In 1980, Schraeder was appointed to the Los Angeles Municipal Court bench by former Governor Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr. He presided at the bench until April of this year.

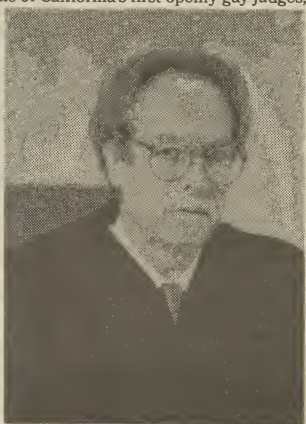
Schraeder had been an outspoken gay activist since the early 1970s, when he was a law student at UCLA. Before becoming a judge, he was the first openly gay lawyer to work in the Los Angeles City Attorney's office.

Until his death, Schraeder worked with several groundbreaking gay and lesbian organizations. He served on the board of directors for the Municipal Elections Committee of Los Angeles, the city's first gay political action committee. In addition, Schraeder was also a co-founder of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center, and was instrumental in its receiving public funding.

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley appointed Schraeder as one of the first members of the LA County AIDS Commission, serving as chairman for two years. He helped establish the AIDS clinic at County-USC Medical Center, which was renamed in his honor earlier this year.

"Wherever I've gone, I've been open about being gay," Schraeder said in a 1984 *Los Angeles Times* interview. "And when I leave, people may not like me but they're not afraid of me."

Information regarding a memorial service was not immediately available. ▼



Thomas F. Garnica

July 25, 1955-June 4, 1993

Thomas, formerly known to some here as "Rico," and known to me always as "Boo" died peacefully at 8:15 a.m. on June 4, after bounding back from many hospitalizations for AIDS.

Thomas was born and grew up in Davenport, Iowa, lived in San Francisco in the mid-1970s, and returned to live here twelve months ago. He also celebrated living in Honolulu, Los Angeles, Palm Springs, and ultimately, Chicago. Thomas will always be remembered by beloved friends in these places for his laughter, beautiful eyes, thick dark hair, joy of the party of life, unquenchable spirit, and loving nature. In a quiet moment, we'll be able to hear him: "Girl...!" ▼



Jon Scott Ford

July 13, 1962-Feb. 12, 1993

Jon Ford was born July 13, 1963 in Tacoma, Washington, and passed away surrounded by friends and family on February 12, 1993 at Bailey-Boushays House in Seattle, Washington, following a courageous battle with AIDS.

Jon loved life and lived the adventures that it brought to the fullest extent. His desire and inner strength for his life of adventure carried him through to his final days.

In the course of Jon's love for adventure, he both traveled and discovered. These travels brought him to live in Atlanta, San Francisco and San Diego, but Seattle was his home.

Jon had a special love for the outdoors. He manifested this love through camping, hiking, going for drives in the country or by just spending a day in the park.

Jon was a special friend to many in every way, whether it was a hello in passing on the street, a quick or long conversation on the phone, spending time just "hanging out," or by getting together for a special night out for dinner.

Jon is survived by his father, Raymond; his siblings, Debbie, Tracey, Tanu, Scott, Kerri and Diane; along with his grandmother, uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins. Jon was interred at Mountain View Memorial Park in Tacoma on Saturday, February 20, at 1:30 p.m. at the grave of his mother, who passed away in 1983.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks for all of the love, support and prayers we have received. ▼



Ferris Lehman

June 2, 1904-March 11, 1993

Ferris Lehman died in San Francisco, a home he made for about 30 years. An early pioneer in the gay rights movement in San Francisco, Ferris was a long and devoted member of S.I.R., the Society for Individual Rights, the first truly gay rights organization in San Francisco. He spent many hours devoting his time and energy to the success and membership of S.I.R. In later years, he was a member of the Pride Foundation and continued working for the benefit of gay people. He was an active member of the Church of the Ad-

vent of Christ the King. Ferris was a former resident of Chicago and had served honorably in the U.S. military.

Travel was his interest and he spent many vacations visiting the places that many of us dream about. A good friend, he died from cancer after a serious bout with this illness. A funeral service was held and a funeral mass by Father Bowersox of the Church of the Advent.

Ferris lived a long and productive life and was very honorable, kind, and always a gentleman. He is survived by members of his family in Arkansas and in San Jose, California. He will always be remembered by his many friends. ▼



June 6, 1943

JAMES A. RARIDAN

May 24, 1993

"You Are Loved"

At 2:00 am Jim's gentle, loving and creative spirit took flight. After an eight year struggle with ARC, AIDS and ultimately dementia and blindness, Jim finally slipped his bonds to pass peacefully in his sleep.

Offering care and comfort were Jim's constant companions: Terry, his lover of nine years, and his best friend, Mark.

We wish to offer special thanks to Jim's mother Evelyn, sister Cheryl, daughter Alice, son Joshua, and former wife Fran, whose presence, kindness and concern brought a smile to his face and brightened his final days. His feline familiars, Muffin and Sabie, were also a source of great joy.

All of us remember the little guy with the big heart, generous nature, caustic wit and bad puns. He was a great cook, student, teacher, artist, designer, photographer and raconteur. He regaled us with fond memories of his halcyon days - New York, Cooper Union...his exhibits, concerts and gallery career.

Always outspoken, opinionated and at times stubborn, irascible and cantankerous, he thrived under pressure and adversity. He rallied against injustice, Republican evil, medical malfeasance, red tape and the system that perpetuated it.

Jim controlled every aspect of his health care, bringing new drug therapies to the attention of his physicians and setting precedents for the medical care of other AIDS patients.

A celebration of Jim's life, and all those he touched, will be held on Saturday, June 26, at 1:00pm, at Dolores Street Baptist Church, 208 Dolores Street (at 15th), San Francisco.

In memoriam: If you wish, flowers for the service or a donation to the S.F. AIDS Foundation, P.A.W.S., Project Open Hand, or the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Doug Oulette

"Vapid Velma"

Jan. 23, 1940-May 11, 1993

On May 11, about 1 a.m., our friend and brother, Doug Oulette died, another bit of collateral damage, a casualty of the plague.

He was a seeker after the real, irascible and loving, confounding, delightful, overwhelming his friends. Doug pursued truth and beauty with the lust of an ancient philosopher.

He was born, grew up, and schooled in Maine, spent five years in the Air Force, then escaped to San Francisco in '67, where he celebrated a life that vanished after only 53 years.

Doug worked hard and with very little thanks, for over 20 years in the insurance business and wanted to die in his own bed, in his own home, in the company of his buddies Joe and John and his cat, Frankie. He died instead in a tiny room at Kaiser Hospital, clutching an oxygen mask.

If he's been re-born as a baby, somewhere we can only hope that the next life will be easier. If he's around us in the air, like the constant atoms, we'd like to say, "hello." And goodbye.

There's no tombstone, but Doug thought this would look good on his. A parody of something Oscar Wilde once said: "If this is the way God treats his children, he shouldn't be allowed to have any."

Our friend was a tough old bird who tried hard to see past all the nonsense. He's survived his friends, his cat, and his mother. We can only remember him now. ▼



Gregg Howe

April 30, 1993

Late Friday night, April 30, 1993,

Gregory Vernon Howe died without prolonged suffering at Mt. Zion Hospital, where he had worked in Patient Account Services for the past ten years. Gregg leaves behind to carry on in his unflappable spirit his partner-in-life Scott Stalaker, several very close friends, the members of his two bowling teams, and his supporters in the two HIV-positive



groups he participated in.

Raised in Jackson, Ohio, Gregg graduated in 1974 from nearby Ohio University with a BFA in Theater. After graduation, eager to be outrageous and committed to his gay identity, Gregg worked in Provincetown, MA, for two consecutive summers. He then settled in Boston where he added a political dimension to his gay life by joining the Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom. *Gay Community News* shortly thereafter tapped Gregg's persuasive skills by hiring him for advertising manager.

Moving to San Francisco in 1979, Gregg wrote a play here, *America Live!*, and three mystery novels, the last having been accepted for publication by Knights Press before it ceased publishing.

Parents Betty and Ralph Howe and brother William joined with friends in Jackson, Ohio, for an interment service on May 11. A gloriously sunny day - "speedo weather." Gregg would have called it - reigned over a memorial service in the garden of Dan Healy and Gerry Labuda in Noe Valley on May 8. ▼

ZOLTAN A. GRAY

August 16, 1960 -

March 7, 1993

Zoltan passed away in New York City after a lengthy battle with AIDS. Always the center of attention, Zoltan will be remembered for his radiant smile and joyful spirit.

Originally from Maryland, Zoltan served in the Navy in San Diego and spent considerable time in Los Angeles pursuing an acting and modeling career. San Francisco however, was unquestionably his home.

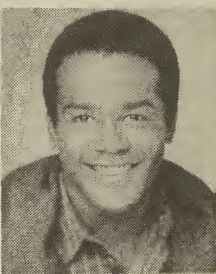
A skilled performer, Zoltan appeared in many commercials, films and music videos. He loved to travel and socialize and spend time with friends.

Cremation and services were held by his family in Maryland.

A gathering for those who knew and loved him will be held at 6:00PM on June 24th at 3362 - 16th Street. For details, please call Michael at 552-7883.

Saddened by his loss, his memory will be cherished and held dear by the many who loved him, especially Scott, Michael, Kevin, Mark, John, Bill, Chris, Don, Ginny, Jack, Carolyn and his beloved Pirate.

We'll miss you, Z.



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Obituaries

Jack Anthony Krumpols

April 7, 1953-June 4, 1993

After a valiant struggle, Jack passed away peacefully on June 4 from an AIDS-related illness. He spent his final days under the watchful care of his dear friend John Adams.

Always cheerful with a positive attitude, his last months were spent traveling and visiting the many friends he had made over the years. Jack's love for water was well known by many. He was an avid water skier and enjoyed taking sea cruises whenever time permitted. Even towards the end he had made reservations on an RSVP cruise, one of his favorite holidays. I am sure he will be missed on costume night.

He founded Jack Trux in 1977. Though the company started as a one truck hauling operation, under his careful guidance it developed into one of the finest delivery companies, service decorators and showrooms in the Bay Area. Jack, a member of the GGBA, was always willing to lend help and support to AIDS fund raising projects, including The Academy of Friends, The Names Project and Project Open Hand. Jack is survived by many family members including his sisters Katherine and Mary Ann, brothers JC, Jimmy, Robert and his wife, Lori, and his fondest companion Ika. In keeping with Jack's wishes and his love of the sea, a small group of family members and friends will set sail aboard "The Legend," where his life will be celebrated as his remains are scattered out to sea.

Although he will be missed greatly, his memory will live in his company, Jack Trux, which will continue in the tradition he intended. ▼

Colin Blakeney

May 2, 1993

Colin Blakeney died Wednesday night, May 2, after three years of fighting AIDS in his body, and in the streets. Governmental inaction, corporate greed, and the queer-hatred of the U.S. citizenry have murdered one more of our warriors.

Born on February 2, 1948, Colin grew up in New England and was kicked out of many prep schools and attended Wilmington College. He travelled the world, from working in the fields in Cuba to partying with the Sex Pistols in London, until finally making San Francisco his home.

Colin's political commitment, born in the civil rights movement, grew up through the anti-war movement and gay liberation. He joined ACTUP/San Francisco in 1990 and spent his final years as an AIDS activist, remaining committed to anti-racist and feminist work as well. Despite many experiences of police violence from being shot at the Chicago convention to beatings by SFPD at ACT UP demos, Colin was never afraid to take risks demanding justice. Only one week out of the hospital, he insisted on going to the March On Washington and was arrested at the Capitol on April 26, demanding universal health care. Though himself very ill, he still fought for health care for all.

We who love Colin will miss his kindness and courage. We honor his spirit by continuing to ACT UP.

There will be a memorial July 3, please call 552-2751 for more information. ▼

John Lee Hoover

Nov. 1, 1952-June 4, 1993

John Hoover died quietly in his sleep on June 4 with his partner of five years, Doug Clevenger at his side. Although he had been sick for quite some time, his death came as a surprise to all of us who knew and loved him. John was the kind of friend that constantly offered an outstretched hand, a shoulder to cry on, or just a good story to make us laugh. We will miss his friendship. He enjoyed a successful career as an

Art Director at high profile agencies throughout Denver and San Francisco since 1979, including Foot, Cone & Belding, Ketchum Advertising and Hill & Knowlton. He also worked as an independent consultant, loaning his expertise to organizations such as the Names Project and the Gay Games. We will miss his talent.

John leaves behind two loving families. His immediate family includes his parents, Robert and Rhea Hoover; brothers, Scott and Charles of Colorado; and sister, Vicky of Dallas. In addition to Doug Clevenger, John's extended family includes Leslie Morrison, Cathi Kamm, Paul Williams, Gail Kimmel, Robin Hiddgins, Kevin Burke, and Bill Ryan.

We will miss John, but he will stay alive in our hearts forever. If you have anything to contribute to a memory book or would like to attend a celebration of John's life on July 18, contact Leslie at 984-6374.

The family requests that memorial contributions in John's name be made to the Names Project, 2367 Market St., 94114. ▼

Christopher Gerard Deveny

"Woody"

June 9, 1993

Christopher chose to depart on June 9, 1993. Having done battle heroically for years, on his winged feet his spirit took the loftier road upon which life is made.

Passioned from birth for the ideals from which our consciousness is bred, his life, genuine and destined for the purity of heart, unfolded for our wanting desires. Quick, alert and beguiling, he would embrace your soul, entrance your spirit, and arouse your being. His kindred was likened to a gentle moist breeze across a weary brow. He knew no burden unbearable.

He will be sorely missed. Among us are far too many to dare mention whom he shared his magic with, do know that he loves you all, and wishes you well on your own journey. Goodbye and Godspeed, our fairest Christopher.

A memorial service is being planned. For information please contact Steve, 826-3326. ▼

Jess George Fisher

June 13, 1952-June 5, 1993

Jess George Fisher was born June 13, 1952 in Richmond, Virginia. He was the son of James Elisa Fisher and Aphrodite Stella Fisher.

Jess attended the Lowell, MA school system. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Air Force. Shortly after his discharge, he moved to San Francisco.

Jess worked at Pacific Bell Telephone and Bank of America.

Jess leaves behind two brothers, Patrick Raymond Wilson and James Percy Fisher; two nieces, Jennifer and Stacey Fisher; two nephews, Christopher Wilson and James Chistos Loughran Fisher; and three special friends, Tracey Frazier, Lionel Byron and Sam Florida.

We wish to thank all the Zea volunteers, as well as all the medical and social service staff at Laguna Honda Hospital, Section 04, for their strong support and friendship. ▼

Michael Gorman

May 14, 1993

Michael Gorman of 725 Corbett Street died at Davies Medical Center on May 14, 1993. He was 51 years old and had been ill for nearly a year. He had numerous friends and acquaintances who all loved him for his good looks, joyful personality, and heart of gold. It is doubtful that anyone ever met Mike who didn't immediately like him. His burial took place in Lowell, Massachusetts, where he was born and where family members still live. ▼

Gordon Satterly

"The Rainbow Guy"

1945-1993

On Saturday, May 8, Gordon took the next step in his search for love, acceptance and the roots of his anger.

He patiently and tediously constructed his offerings, of his perception, of love and caring in the form of rainbow colored necklaces. He sowed these tokens on the streets of San Francisco with loving commentary.

Gordon raged against his perception of the inequities he felt from his family, friends, lovers, and the social system. All of us came together, lovingly to his support in his final days.

He never dreamed his family would be there for him, as they were. They and all of us rarely heard him appreciate how he was loved.

If you would like to join us in celebrating our love for Gordon, and the scattering of his remains within the next few weeks, please call John Harvey at (415) 864-3083. ▼

Tom Cmolik

Dec. 28, 1954-June 5, 1993

Tom passed away at 6 a.m. on June 5, 1993 while a patient in Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco. It was his first and only hospitalization related to AIDS. He suffered physically only in the last few months. Emotionally, he was scared and devastated by the illness from the beginning.

Originally from Cleveland, Tom worked for years as a reservations supervisor for United Airlines. This enabled him to travel extensively in this and many other countries. He also went out of his way to help many of his friends to get the best deal they could while flying the friendly skies.

Tom loved '50s record players, '60s convertibles, old rock and roll, and bodybuilding. He won the Physique Body Building Championship in about 1986 and worked out every morning at Gold's Gym. A deeply religious and spiritual man, he attended church regularly and struggled with the inconsistencies of his religion and his spiritual beliefs. He longed for the intimate adult relationship he never had.

He is survived by his parents, Clarence and Ida Cmolik of Cleveland, two sisters, two roommates, one ex-lover and numerous friends. He touched the hearts of many and will be sincerely missed. Rest in peace, Tom. ▼

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, the *Bay Area Reporter* has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Write name of person on back of photo. If you include a stamped envelope to have the photo returned, please write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m. ▼

Clinton on Line

by Al Kielwasser

Confirming their "commitment to change," Bill Clinton and Al Gore have announced that, "for the first time in history, the White House will be connected to you via electronic mail."

"We eagerly anticipate the day when electronic mail from the public is an integral and normal part of the White House communications system," the president and vice president stated.

According to a memo from the Office of Presidential Correspondence, the White House will be connected to Internet and several other on-line media. Congress and various government agencies are expected to follow suit, under the auspices of a program known as Americans Communicating Electronically (ACE).

According to Clinton and Gore, "e-mail messages will be read and receipt immediately acknowledged. A careful count will be taken on the number received as well as the subject of each message." The White House anticipates being able to send back "a tailored response via electronic mail" by the end of the year. "Since this has never been tried before," the president and his vice explained, "it is important to allow for some flexibility in the system in these first few days. We welcome your suggestions."

To e-mail your suggestions and other comments, contact Bill Clinton (PRESIDENT.EHOUSE.GOV) and Al Gore (VICEPRESIDENT.EHOUSE.GOV).

Sister 2 Sister

"Tell people to be honest. Don't live with lies. It's up to you, it's up to me, to bring this out." That's some of the advice offered by gay singer RuPaul Andre Charles in the latest issue of *Sister 2 Sister*. *Sister 2 Sister* is a glossy magazine that reports on the entertainment industry, with a particular emphasis on African-American women.

In "She's Quite a Man," RuPaul — who's been "doing professional drag for about 11 years" — talks about being gay and his decision to attend his family reunion. He writes: "My manager said, 'Ru, they are going to eat you alive.' But I said, 'No, baby. If they accept my Uncle Warren, they can accept anything.'" "I felt it was up to me to bring my family into the new age," RuPaul explains, "because I'm about world domination, honey."

RuPaul also offers some insights into his experience with drag ("Underneath everything, we're all doing drag, honey.") and being gay ("People who live outside the main parameters of society see things other people don't see. It's like dogs that can hear things we can't hear").

Send comments to Jaime Foster Brown, Publisher, *Sister 2 Sister*, P.O. Box 41148, Washington, DC 20018.

Extra Effort

Check out the June issue of *Extra!*, the magazine pub-

lished by Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR). The issue's theme is "Confronting Homophobia: Gays & Lesbians and the Media." The magazine's 11 contributions touch on many themes. Included in the issue are articles examining the mediated hate campaigns of the "religious" right, educational equity and textbook reform, the track record of the mainstream media, lesbian and gay journalists, and media activism strategies.

Direct comments and compliments to Jim Naureckas, Editor, *Extra!*, 130 West 25th Street, New York, NY 10001, tel. 212-633-6700, fax 212-727-7668.

Teaching Tolerance, Again

In response to concerns that wealthy homophobes were attempting to exert editorial control at the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Law Center has reaffirmed a commitment to combat homophobia in *Teaching Tolerance*. *Teaching Tolerance* is a magazine published by the Law Center and distributed free of charge to school teachers.

Last month, Pam Walton (producer of the video *Gay Youth*) reported that *Teaching Tolerance* had come "under pressure from homophobic funders to omit articles that address the problems of gay and lesbian youth." While the magazine had addressed such issues in the past, there was a mounting danger that it might no longer do so. According to Walton, she was privately informed by Carol Heller, a *Teaching Tolerance* Research Fellow, that: "The Southern Poverty Law Center is more interested in raising money than in teaching tolerance."

Sarah Bullard, editor of *Teaching Tolerance*, has refuted Walton's and Heller's claim and has denied that bigots with big checks compromised the Law Center's values. Bullard has vowed that her publication will not cater to such homophobic interests nor retreat from lesbian and gay issues.

Thank Bullard for her commitment, and encourage her to act upon that commitment soon. Write to Sarah Bullard, Editor, *Teaching Tolerance*, Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104, tel. 205-264-0286, fax 205-264-3121.

Money Magazine

"How to Retire Early" is the cover story in the June issue of *Money* magazine. Written by Ruth Simon, the feature profiles various older couples and traces their financial success stories. Included amongst the cast are "Martha Burns, 51, and her partner Linda Hartsock, 53, [who] have socked away \$140,000." Highlighting the feature article is a full-page photo spread of the grinning lesbian couple, standing in front of the house they plan to retire to by the year 2003.

Feedback can be sent to Jason McManus, Editor-In-Chief, *Money* magazine, Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020.

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations or affirmations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

Gay Cops Ask for Community Support in City Budget Battle

by Judi Parks

Two police officers and their lovers set up a table at "Hibernia Beach" in the Castro on Saturday, June 12, to bring the plight of gay police officers home to the community. Seventeen gay and lesbian police officers are among the 85 San Francisco police officers slated to be laid off at the end of the month when Mayor Frank Jordan slashes the city budget.

According to Patrolman Chuck Limbert, out of the 85 officers scheduled for the unemployment rolls, 53 percent are women and minorities. The 85 patrolmen work the evening and night shifts and are the main support for security on the streets.

"There are other areas within the police budget where cuts could come from to save these officers. It took a long time to get these gay and lesbian officers on the street, and if we lose the advances we have gained for fair representation in the police department, the sensitivity to gay and lesbian issues will suffer," Limbert told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Jordan announced at a press conference last Sunday that if the department was willing to give up the five percent across the board raise negotiated about them months ago with the Police Officers



Seventeen gays and lesbians are among 85 San Francisco police officers to be laid off due to budget cuts. (Photo: Judi Parks)

Association, the 85 officers jobs could be spared and the city could maintain the total number on the force.

According to Noah Griffin, a spokesman from the Mayor's office, "We received a negative response, which was unfortunate. We are still negotiating, however."

Newly appointed San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal, who was named to the Board by Jordan for her fiscal expertise, has already met with Police Chief Anthony Ribera. According to Griffin, "She is obviously concerned about the layoff of the officers, as well as the fact that those slated to be laid off are minority, gay or lesbian, and women. She's looking for ways in the budget process to

try and identify some funds to retain the officers."

Griffin added that she intends before the next Board meeting to meet with the "Coalition of 85," an ad hoc group formed to sidestep the ax.

Patrolman Vicki Stansberry, one of the officers being laid off, told the *B.A.R.*, "I've made a big commitment to this job and the training, and I feel like I'm being abandoned. The police department has \$3 million dollars invested in these officers. If he lays these officers off, the city will lose not only the money in training, but young, enthusiastic people."

Chief Ribera was unavailable for comment at press time. ▼

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Class Action Suit Charges Priests Created Kid Sex Ring

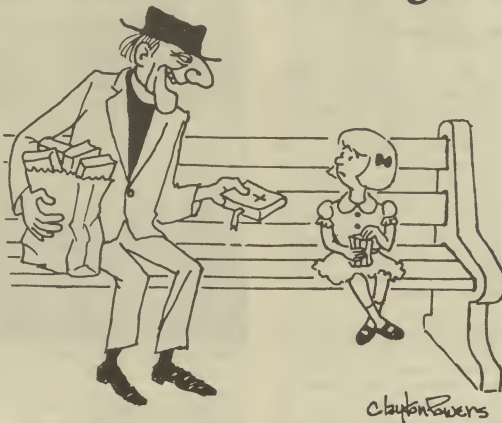
PHILADELPHIA (UPI) - Three men who claim they were sexually abused by Roman Catholic priests as children filed a class-action suit Thursday, June 10, against the church hierarchy, including two bishops they allege covered up the incidents.

The suit, filed in U.S. District Court in Camden, New Jersey, alleges that two priests in Camden and Providence, Rhode Island, forced the three into sex when they were youths. One of the accusers is the Reverend Gary Hayes, a parish priest in Kentucky, formerly of Camden. Steven Stolar and Terence Smith, both of Millville, New Jersey, are also plaintiffs in the class action suit.

The suit names the current bishop of Camden, Bishop James McHugh; the bishop of Providence, Bishop Louis Gelineau; the estate of the late Bishop George Guilfoyle of Camden; several parish priests; two parishes; and the National Catholic Conference of Bishops and the United States Catholic Conference, both of Washington, D.C.

The suit also charges the bishops with fraud and conspiracy under federal racketeering laws and seeks an injunction to prevent the continued destruction of incriminating documents.

The suit alleges two priests, the Reverend Joseph



"Bible, little girl?"

McGarvey of Audubon, New Jersey, and the Reverend William O'Connell of Providence, between 1965 and 1972 "conspired to create a sex ring of children that could be sexually abused by them and other priests."

It said the priests used fear of reprisals against the youths to keep them quiet. The men say the abuse began when they were 12 and 15, and that they were originally lured into sex after being told they were going on a camping trip.

On Monday, June 14, McHugh defended the church

against the claims and totally denied the allegations.

"There is no tolerance of any type of addiction or sexual behavior on the part of priests in the diocese of Camden," McHugh said. "Any complaint is immediately investigated and if accurate our guidelines are invoked. When called for a priest is given rehabilitation and continuing therapy."

McHugh called priests' relationships with children in their parishes "a very wholesome and a very positive part of priestly life and ministry."▼

Catholic Cardinal: Church Must Face Priestly Pedophilia

United Press International

CHICAGO — The leader of Chicago's Roman Catholics says the entire church must face the problem of child sexual abuse allegations involving priests, a published report said Sunday, June 13.

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin said in an interview with the *Chicago Sun-Times* that a number of bishops and laity objected to "the very public way" the Chicago archdiocese handled allegations. Bernardin appointed a group that made recommendations last year to confront the problem.

But his action had "drawn back the curtain" and despite the time involved, it was worth it, Bernardin said.

Since then nearly all 188 dioceses in the United States have launched studies or set up procedures patterned after those of the Chicago archdiocese, he said.

"This showed it is not just my problem but one that the entire church must face," Bernardin said.

ranrdin said.

Sexual abuse by clergy is on the agenda when bishops meet this weekend in New Orleans. But Bernardin said the bishops cannot adopt a national policy because canon law makes the dioceses independent jurisdictions and states have differing laws.

The key feature of the archdiocese's program is Bernardin's promise that the church will inform civil authorities of sex abuse allegations before the church starts its own investigation.

In the last two years Bernardin has removed 23 priests from parish assignments because of charges of sexual abuse involving children. Some have left the priesthood, a few are undergoing examinations and others have or will be reassigned to ministerial posts where they will not be in contact with children, Bernardin said.▼

Budget

(Continued from page 1)

want a realistic health care budget which funds all programs at the level which San Franciscans deserve," Jordan said in a statement about the protest.

"The budget out of Sacramento has, however, forced us to limit what we are able to fund. The state has removed more than \$123 million of local property tax revenue which comes from the General Fund. Programs and services we once took for granted have now fallen to the Governor's axe," he continued.

Jordan restated his record in addressing the AIDS crisis, including his declaration of a state of emergency to initiate needle exchange, several trips to Washington to argue for AIDS funding, and other lobbying.

Jordan also said he has appointed a federal lobbyist with experience in health fields, and appointed Latina lesbian Susan Leal as a Supervisor. Leal brings an extensive background in health care management to the board, and Jordan predicted she "will be a tremendous asset in the fight to address the AIDS crisis."

During the demonstration, activists unfurled protest banners and red crepe streamers over the railings in the rotunda of City Hall, blew air horns and whistles, and a group of about 20 activists briefly took over the Mayor's outer office.

The brief but raucous sit-in, which sent several Jordan staffers scurrying for cover down a hall corridor, ended when Chief of Police Anthony Ribera entered the office and tersely ordered police to remove the activists and take them to the Hall of Justice.

Ribera, wearing plain

clothes with his service revolver in his waistband, arrived on the scene in response to a police radio message calling for officers to provide "back up assistance."

"I respond to as many officer assistance calls as I possibly can," he said.

Ribera acknowledged that he pushed a photographer and a television cameraman out of the way during the arrests in the Mayor's office.

"They were trying to get in while we were trying to get people out. The cameraman was coming through the door. I shoved him out of the way. I was making arrests," Ribera said.

Northern Station Captain Richard Cairns told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the incident in which activists tied streamers to light fixtures, tossed flyers into the air and taped them to the walls, blew whistles, and chanted slogans, "was very disruptive."

"It was a serious violation of Mayor Jordan's security. They were coming into the office and disrupting everything. I don't take it lightly. It was very disruptive," he said.

During the arrest, as activists were being placed in patrol wagons for transport to the Hall of Justice for booking, Cairns was jeered by several activists who urged him to jump from his observation post on the Mayor's balcony.

But Cairns, who is the nemesis of many AIDS activists because of his role in the October 6, 1989, Castro ACT UP-police confrontation, said the jeers were all part of the job.

"I take it with a grain of salt: I'm a professional. Those things don't bother me," Cairns told the *B.A.R.*

During the incident, Gerard Koskovich and several other legal observers were ordered to leave City Hall or face arrest for trespassing. Koskovich was personally escorted out of the building by two officers.▼

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- Brenda Lien, Project Inform
- Jon Kaiser, M.D.
- Jason Heyman, AIDS Treatment News
- Kristin Weaver, Nursing Director of GI Nutrition at S.F. General

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Burroughs-Wellcome Caps Annual Acyclovir Costs

by Dennis Conkin

Burroughs-Wellcome announced last week that it has reduced the cost of an anti-herpes virus drug for patients who are taking it as part of chronic, high-dose therapy but do not have insurance to cover the whole cost.

Effective immediately, patients who use more than 552 grams of Zovirax brand of acyclovir per year will receive an additional 620 grams at no cost for the remainder of a 12-month period.

The Burroughs-Wellcome price for the 552 grams — or 2,600 200 mg. tablets — is about \$2,000 a year.

When the cap level program was established earlier this year, the company intended to set the threshold at 730 grams but reduced it by 32 percent after discussions with members of its own HIV Community Advisory Board. That ten-member board includes Mike Shriver of 18th Street Services, Reggie Williams of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention and Black and White Men Together, and Chuck Fruchey of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Most herpes virus conditions treated with Zovirax (including genital herpes, chicken pox, shingles and herpes encephalitis) do not require treatment likely to exceed the

cap level, but a Burroughs-Wellcome spokesperson told the *Bay Area Reporter* that some physicians may prescribe high dose chronic acyclovir therapy because they feel there is a "synergistic effect" with the drug taken in combination with other anti-retrovirals such as AZT.

Burroughs-Wellcome also has a similar cap program for Mepron brand atavacuone, a new anti-protozoal medication used to treat *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, one of the most common opportunistic infections in people with HIV.

Under the cap programs, physicians can call a toll-free number to enter a patient into the program. After the pa-



Burroughs Wellcome's HIV Advisory Board.

tient is enrolled, the usage of Zovirax or Mepron will be monitored through a prescription auditing program used in most pharmacies. Once the gram threshold is met, patients will not be charged for

additional prescriptions for the drugs for the remainder of the 12-month period.

A patient can re-enroll at the end of a year if they are still taking high-dose chronic therapy and wish to receive

the cost reduction. For more information about the program, physicians and health care professional can call the Burroughs-Wellcome patient assistance program at 1-800-722-9294. ▼

Florida Judge Allows Boy with AIDS To Die

United Press International

DAYTONA BEACH — A 3-year-old boy in the final stages of AIDS has been released from a Daytona Beach hospital after a judge granted his foster parents' motion to withhold treatment that would prolong his life.

The unnamed boy's biological mother is a cocaine addicted prostitute who did not appear at the hearing Monday, June 16. The child was released from the hospital Tuesday.

The boy, who was born HIV infected and addicted to cocaine, has been hospitalized at least 12 times.

His doctor testified that his condition has deteriorated recently and that additional medical care would only prolong the death process.

Judge Michael Hutcheson agreed, and ruled that the boy be allowed to die naturally. ▼

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Hope or Hype?

by Michael C. Botkin

The Ninth International Conference on AIDS ended last week. I didn't go this year: the high cost of travel and concerns about my quirky health deterred me, especially when combined with vague fears about the likely fate, in these troublesome times in Europe, of an American-queer-gay-Jew-with-AIDS in Berlin. Instead I watched from afar, via newspapers and TV, the few soundbites that rose above the background noise to qualify as "stories."

In a couple of weeks — after I've had a chance to debrief returning activists and to read the Conference abstracts (a process typically more informative than actually attending the event itself) I'll give my down-and-dirty in-depth analysis of the relevant scientific results of the affair. Still, even without this detailed data some interesting aspects of the Conference are immediately apparent.

The relative lack of hype was a stark contrast to previous years. In the past each International Conference on AIDS was accompanied by high hopes for a breakthrough of some sort. "Maybe this year..." the media pundits would say, crossing their fingers and signing their expense accounts. No one

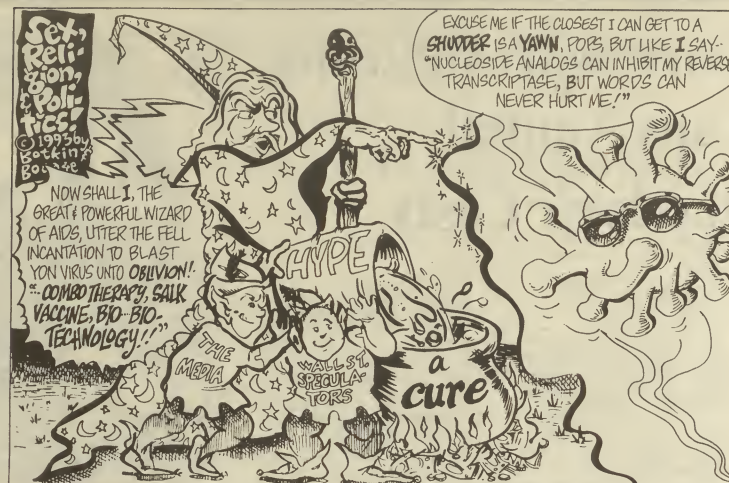
talked that way this time. Is the Media finally getting wise? Or are they just burned out on the subject?

To some degree the reduced hype was due to miscalculation by the biotech industry. For the past couple of years they've been talking up a storm, flashing glitzy and powerful sounding scientific concepts like "genetic engineering" to suggest that a high-tech cure is sure to be found in their test-tubes at any moment. They used these inflated projections to flog their stocks, which rose to dizzying heights — even by the generous standards of the immensely profitable pharmaceutical industry. This year they pushed it too far, until even stodgy mainstreamers like Lawrence Altman of the *New York Times* got fed up with them and their ridiculously high hopes (or rather, high hypes?).

Given the distance of the Conference, the arcane nature of its news, and the general diminishing interest in AIDS, only four items made national news status: "combination therapy," the infamous "Concorde" study, an analysis of "long-term survivors" (mostly from San Francisco) and the 29 African whores.

Damned Little

The first two stories are old hat, and any dedicated



AIDS news hound already knew all about them and gained nothing new from their Conference presentations. Speaking as an HIVer with virtually no T-cells, "Combo therapy" struck me as possibly the least promising prospect I've been offered in a long time. The term

Commentary

"combo therapy" is used both generically, to describe any use of multiple anti-virals (like AZT, ddC, ddI, etc), and specifically to refer to a treatment that consists of two anti-virals (apparently your choice from "column A") plus Neverapine.

I'm already doing the "general" and have no interest in

the "specific." When they say "in combination with AZT and one other anti-viral, Neverapine blocks HIV replication" they're just avoiding the salient truth: "Neverapine, by itself, does absolutely NOTHING, which we discovered last year, but since we'd already paid to run its clinical trials we decided to combine it with other drugs to see if we couldn't salvage some use and/or profit from it."

The hope is that the new drug, combined with existing nucleoside analogues, will block reverse transcriptase and keep HIV from reproducing. In effect, it would do what AZT was supposed to do on its own but can't. Even if this could be accomplished — which I doubt — it still wouldn't be a "cure" because blocking reproduction doesn't do anything about the HIV already in your body. And scientifically it's a bone-headed approach to make a triple assault on the exact same target. There are at least a half-dozen good points of attack on the AIDS virus, and common sense suggests that it's best to combine different, complimentary approaches instead of just stacking up nearly-identical drugs on a single process.

The infamous "Concorde" study, the combined European research project on AZT and early intervention, hogged the Conference news even though all its essentials were released and debated months ago. To my mind it was thoroughly debunked by John James in *AIDS Treatment News* several weeks ago. His argument, in brief, is this: the study compared "automatic" early intervention with AZT versus a "tailored" approach where therapy was delayed until a doctor judged it necessary; but unfortunately the "automatic" dose was way too high, resulting in toxic side effects that balanced whatever therapeutic value the AZT would otherwise have had.

The Concorde was gleefully seized upon by the small and discredited community of non-HIV theorists as proof of their point (that AIDS is caused by bad karma, wild living and, perhaps, the African Swine Flu). Others crowed that AZT had lost its luster (and some say the whole hyped story was a successful attempt to manipulate Burroughs' stock market prices). Still others used Concorde to throw doubts on the effectiveness of T-cell counts as clinical indicators.

But AZT had already lost its luster: no serious AIDS re-

searcher at this point expects it to have more than a temporary effect, a year's worth, perhaps, of "bounce." (Of course, that "bounce" could be enough to save one's life — for a while). And much as I would like to believe that my T-cell count of 12 is a datum of no relevance, a decade of experience suggests the contrary.

So what does Concorde tell us that we didn't already know? Damned little.

29 whores

A study of "long-term survivors" tracked a group of HIVers who, despite demonstrably carrying the AIDS virus for years, show no signs of immune suppression and remain symptom-free. Another study, from Africa, identified a group of 29 or so very busy prostitutes who plied their trade on the truck routes of Central Africa — thereby doubtless being exposed to HIV on countless occasions — but somehow didn't get AIDS. Together these results imply that some people are immune to infection altogether, and that others can fight it off without assistance.

This is no doubt true. There has never been an illness that kills all of its victims. Actually, I'm rather disappointed at the smallness of the numbers involved. If only that tiny handful of people, statistically almost too small to really bother counting at all, can resist the virus this doesn't really augur well for the rest of us. If this is the best news they can find we're really in trouble.

Last year there were 30 cases of "AIDS without HIV," sparking concerns — long since abandoned — of a second virus. This year it's the 29 whores from Africa. This is an epidemic involving millions of people, so why, every year, is there such hype about the latest group of two dozen or so who don't fit the patterns? They may, its true, hold the key to a future understanding of the virus and its processes. But such theoretical musings are of little value to those of us who need a cure, or at least an effective treatment, right now.

The same can be said for the inflated claims made on behalf of all the vaccines, both therapeutic (for HIVers) and preventative (for HIV-negatives who can hardly wait to take a single, magic pill and then rush around having all the unsafe sex and

(Continued on page 35)

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HIV Watch

(Continued from page 34)

drugs they want). If there was a clearly successful vaccine — and there isn't, yet — it would take not less than ten years of clinical studies to verify its effectiveness. This little detail is never disputed by vaccine boosters, but rather merely overlooked and played down in the fancy press releases.

All told, though, I'd have to say that this year's Conference saw a dramatic reduction in HIV Hype. The Cure Du Jour and the Silver DNA Bullet are less likely to be swallowed and worshipped. Perhaps, at last, AIDS research is moving onto solid enough ground that it is no longer vulnerable to every scamming charlatan with a FAX. ▼

Ammiano, Kopp Duke it out Over CUAV

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco Board of Education President Tom Ammiano has responded to a demand from state Senator Quentin Kopp that Kopp be notified every time Community United Against Violence makes a presentation in the school district.

"I thought all the dinosaurs were in Jurassic Park," Ammiano said of Kopp's request.

Kopp asked Ammiano for the information after he received a letter of complaint from Bruce Budnick, a parent of a student who is opposed to the presence of CUAV speaker's bureau members

making presentations to students.

Budnick recently complained to Kopp concerning presentations in the school district about so-called "gay and lesbian lifestyles," including a recent presentation by Kevin Gogin, co-director of the district's Project 103 program.

Kopp used the opportunity to raise questions about a June 1992 incident, in which attorney Melvin Belli claimed students were subjected to "graphic depictions" of lesbian and gay sex" including "the use of dildos by females to satisfy female sex partners, female oral sex, and the use and promotion of penile de-

vices and sex toys for same-sex satisfaction."

A spokesman for Belli later told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Belli was not representing Budnick.

CUAV denied the claims, made last year by Budnick, who said his daughter was subjected to the conduct in a sixth grade class presentation by CUAV.

A CUAV spokesperson denied the incident occurred in the way characterized by Belli or Budnick, and the agency has continued to make presentations about so-called "gay and lesbian lifestyles," in the district including in middle schools.

Ammiano said that Kopp's demand is "media grand-

standing" and that he "has no right" to ask for the information.

Ammiano also said the curriculum is approved, that CUAV has an excellent and successful relationship with the school district and the support of the Superintendent of Schools, and that support for educating students about so-called "gay and lesbian lifestyles," including anti-violence issues, will continue.

"I think that if Quentin Kopp has any questions about Community United Against Violence that they are just a little late in coming," he said.

Kopp told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he found Ammiano's statements "a rather rude response." ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 175268

The following person is doing business as BONGOMAN PRODUCTIONS, 895 29th Avenue #203, San Francisco, CA 94121; DANIEL S. FRANKSTON, 895 29th Avenue #203, San Francisco, CA 94121; MARK A. SIEBERT, 881 Arguello Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date June 1, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DANIEL S. FRANKSTON.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 1, 1993.

June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 1993. L-175268

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 175160

The following person is doing business as EYE CONTACT, 1111, 1111, 1111, San Francisco, CA 94102; WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY, 633 Post St. #158, San Francisco, CA 94109. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date February 1, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed WILLIAM E. MONTGOMERY.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 1, 1993.

June 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-175160

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 951996

IN SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of (BARBARA JOY MILLER) for change of name. The application of (BARBARA JOY MILLER) for change of name, having been filed in the Court, and it appearing from said application that (BARBARA JOY MILLER) has filed an application proposing that (HER) name be changed to (BARBARA JOY). Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department (X-4) on the 8th day of JULY 1993 at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 24th day of MAY, 1993.

June 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-951996

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 174940

The following person(s) are doing business as THE WOODCHUCK COMPANY, 242 Upper Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94117; CHUCK MARTINEZ, 242 Upper Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94117; TERENCE JAN-NOTT, 242 Upper Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 19, 1993. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed CHUCK MARTINEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 21, 1993.

May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 1993. L-174940

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 175323

The following person is doing business as LIN ENTERPRISES, 55 Natoma St., San Francisco, CA 94105; BETTY Y. LIN, 1000 North Point St. #1802, San Francisco, CA 94109; LAWRENCE P. LIN, 245 Prospect St., Sausalito, CA. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date July 19, 1990. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed BETTY Y. LIN.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 2, 1993.

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 1993. L-175323

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 174613

The following person is doing business as EVERY WEAR, 32 Walter St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1007; EDWARD BEDARD, 32 Walter St., San Francisco, CA 94114-1007. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 13, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed EDWARD BEDARD.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 13, 1993.

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 1993. L-174613

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 174963

The following person is doing business as LADES WITH WEENIES OF SAN FRANCISCO, 930 Hayes St. #11, San Francisco, CA 94117; TAWNY GOLD, 930 Hayes St. #11, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date May 20, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed TAWNY GOLD.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 20, 1993.

June 3, 10, 17, 24, 1993. L-174963

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 174029

The following person is doing business as KENT'S CONVERTIBLE BUG TOURS, 235A Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114; KENNETH TODD BLACKFORD, 235A Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date April 29, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed KENNETH TODD BLACKFORD.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 29, 1993.

May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 1993. L-174029

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 175379

The following person is doing business as CUSTOM SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS, 325 Caselli Ave., San Francisco, CA 94114; WILLIAM CARTER, 325 Caselli Ave., San Francisco, CA 94114; STEVEN DITOMASO, 325 Caselli Ave., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date June 3, 1993. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed WILLIAM CARTER.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 3, 1993.

June 10, 17, 24, July 1, 1993. L-175379

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 951679

IN SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of (WILLIAM-ROBERT SLICKER) for change of name. The application of (WILLIAM-ROBERT SLICKER) for change of name, having been filed in the Court, and it appearing from said application that (WILLIAM-ROBERT SLICKER) has filed an application proposing that (HIS) name be changed to (WILLIAM-ROBERT JOSEF SCHLICHER). Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department (X-4) on the 30th day of JUNE 1993 at 9:00 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 11th day of MAY, 1993.

May 27, June 3, 10, 17, 1993. L-951679

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 175710

The following person is doing business as S.R. TRADING INTERNATIONAL CO., 2018 18th Avenue Apt. E, Seattle, WA 98112; LOBATCHEV SERGE, 2018 18th Avenue Apt. E, Seattle, WA 98112. Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date June 11, 1993. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed LOBATCHEV SERGE, Director.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on June 11, 1993.

June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 1993. L-175710

RFP No. 106-93

The Department of Public Health AIDS Office is seeking proposals to provide psychosocial support services for HIV infected individuals. Services solicited include benefits counseling, emotional and practical support, and client advocacy. Approximately \$2,445,225 will be available for an eighteen month period, with the possibility of 3 twelve month extensions at the amount of \$1,630,150. Bidders may propose all, one or a combination of the services solicited.

1st Bidder's Conference
Date: June 23, 1993
Time: 2:00 p.m.

2nd Bidder's Conference
Date: July 12, 1993
Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor, San Francisco

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One of the definitive AIDS posters from the Ninth International Conference on AIDS in Berlin. The message says people with HIV need love, too.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

PEOPLE AND PERSONALS

VOL. XXIII NO. 24 JUNE 17, 1993

The 17th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival



Michael Lichtenstein (left), Winston Chao, and May Chin prepare a very interesting wedding banquet

Hide-and-Seek Farce

by Paul Bollwinkler

Wai-Tung is a handsome young Taiwanese businessman living with Simon, his longtime American companion in Manhattan. He's interested in making money, working out, and maintaining a happy home life. His parents, back in Taiwan, who don't know he's gay, want him to marry. His father in particular wants a grandchild.

In *The Wedding Banquet*, a well-constructed, often poignant new comedy, Wai-Tung's quiet, comfortably out existence is turned upside down when Mr. and Mrs. Gao announce a surprise trip to New York. The announcement sets the comedy wheels in motion as Simon and Wai-Tung quickly rearrange their brownstone to get rid of anything even remotely gay identifying. They invent a silly story that Simon is Wai-Tung's landlord and roommate, and then ask a free-spirited artist and tenant in one of Wai-Tung's slummy real estate holdings to pose as Wai-Tung's fiancée. Wei-Wei, needing a green card to stay in the country, agrees.

Of course, once the Gaos arrive in New York, the stories begin to slowly unravel, and the strain of keeping up the farcical lie wears on everyone's nerves. After a quick, city hall wedding, the Gaos insist that the young couple attend an elaborate banquet, and in one long, very funny scene, Chinese wedding tradition comes face to face with modern American sensibilities.

Using the suppression of

gay identity as a plot device has a long tradition in movie and TV comedy. From *The Gay Deceivers* to *The Ritz* and *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Victor/Victoria*, and *My Father Is Coming* to nearly every television sitcom of the '70s and '80s, there is no shortage of gay characters pretending they're not and straight ones mistaken for gay. It seems relatively fresh here largely because the morality of being gay itself is never an issue to the gay characters.

The Wedding Banquet makes a valiant effort to go beyond the confines of its own, well-worn genre constraints.

Subtle and Inspired

Moving effortlessly from inspired visual gags to believably funny misunderstandings (the comedy here is often subtle and inspired — best left for viewers to discover themselves) and moments of genuine pathos and pain, *The Wedding Banquet* makes a valiant effort to go beyond the confines of its own, well-worn genre constraints. The characters, especially Wei-

Wei, Wai-Tung, and Mrs. Gao, constantly challenge our entertainment-ingrained expectations. They may be in a Neil Simon movie world, but they don't act like Neil Simon characters. And despite the tried and true plotting, this is a far cry from an episode of *Three's Company*.

There aren't many things in life more difficult than telling your parents that you're gay. But as many of us have learned, the build-up can be much more excruciating than the result. At its best coming out to the folks is one of those rite-of-passage experiences that leads to undreamed of positive changes for the whole family.

Wai-Tung's "build-up," which turns out to be what *The Wedding Banquet* is really all about, makes for a satisfying entertainment that doesn't pander to the homophobia in anyone and doesn't dismiss the conflicted feelings of Wai-Tung's parents.

While *The Wedding Banquet* pays off on its comic promise, you can't help but wish that this be the last time this story is told. Then someday we can look back at this hide-and-seek homo trend with nostalgia and hindsight, sort of like watching Doris Day in one of her righteous virgin movies and knowing — that as fun as they are — times have changed. ▼

The Wedding Banquet
AMC Kabuki: June 26, 11 a.m.
Rating: ★★☆☆

Editor's Note: This screening of *The Wedding Banquet* is sold out, but a limited number of tickets will be available at the Kabuki box office at show time.

Second of Two Sections

1993 Frameline Award Goes to Pratibha Parmar

by Noreen C. Barnes

British-based South Asian lesbian filmmaker Pratibha Parmar will receive this year's Frameline Award for her contribution to lesbian and gay media on June 22 at the Castro Theatre. The evening will also include a retrospective of her remarkable accomplishments, including her video *Double the Trouble*, excerpts from her award-winning *Khush*, the recently completed documentary *Warrior Marks*, and her rarely seen early works, *Emergence* and *Sari Red*.

Speaking by telephone from England, Parmar told the B.A.R., "I feel honored to have been selected for the Frameline Award. It is a wonderful affirmation for my work and can only help to strengthen my continuing resolve to make films that provoke, comfort, impassion, and delight."

Parmar established herself as a strong, sophisticated presence in filmmaking several years ago; with *Khush*, her work about the lives of South Asian lesbians and gay men in India and Britain, she put her protest of white hegemony in lesbian and gay films into artistic practice. In it, Parmar balances documentary with art film savvy, as a blend of cultural icons — some from India's rich film history — are juxtaposed with present-day images to create a unique intersection of past and present.

Just as *Khush* is lyricism and documentary, art and commentary, and an important lesson in social history, so too is *A Place of Rage*, with two visionary women as Parmar's primary subjects. Parmar's highly charged and riveting documentary/commentary on and by African-American women juxtaposes historical footage with contemporary interviews of Angela Davis and poet/activist June Jordan. Parmar's focus on the women as the foundation of the civil rights movement also includes writer Alice Walker and filmmaker Trinh T. Minh-ha. (Parmar



Pratibha Parmar

(Photo: Shaheen Hagi)

collaborated with Walker on her latest work, *Warrior Marks*, a feature-length exploration of the practice of female genital mutilation.)

The filmmaker's other credits include the documentaries *Memory Pictures*, on photographer Sunil Gupta, and *Flesh & Paper*, about Indian writer Suniti Namjoshi.

The Frameline Award is presented annually by Frameline's board of directors. Past winners have been Marlon Riggs, Rob Epstein, Effi Mikesch, film distributor Cinevista, and Divine. Commenting on this year's recipient, board president and B.A.R. writer Karl Knapper stated, "For her accomplishments as a filmmaker, her contributions to so many communities, and her continuing commitment to film as a means of creating social change, we are proud to present the 1993 Frameline Award to Pratibha Parmar." ▼

An Evening With
Pratibha Parmar
Castro Theatre; June 22,
9:30 p.m.

The Star System

To help guide viewers to particularly worthwhile offerings at this year's film fest, the B.A.R. is introducing a rating guide for festival offerings. The key for our ratings system follows:

- ★★★★ Don't Miss This One
- ★★★ Very Good
- ★★ Interesting But Flawed
- ★ Pretty Bad

Editor's Choice

by Robert Julian

It's the kind of film that would make Jesse Helms nuts (or at least more nuts than he already is). It's also the kind of film NAMBLA might drag out to justify its existence. And at the same time, it's a subtle, idyllic, richly photographed memoir of adolescent love — one that's unlikely to upset the average San Francisco audience, gay or straight.

For a Lost Soldier is a retrospective look at the end of World War II, seen through the eyes of an adult choreographer who recalls his childhood affair with a handsome Canadian soldier. The young boy's liberator (in every sense of that word) is played by Andrew Kelley, who not only wears his dog tags well, but manages to make the soldier's attentions seem natural and compassionate. This is no small feat, when you see them naked in bed together, with the young boy on the bottom.

Credit goes to Roeland Kerbosch, the Dutch director, for bringing Rudi van Dantzig's autobiography to the screen in such a thoroughly objective fashion. Kerbosch's lush visual imagery is

reminiscent of David Lean, and he uses the pastoral setting as a calming counterpoint for the complex human emotions simmering beneath the surface of his characters. It's simply impossible to imagine any American director (with the possible exception of Gus Van Sant) bringing this story to the screen with such honesty.

Jeroen Krabbe (Streisand's husband in *Prince of Tides*) plays the adult choreographer. And in the present day bookends that frame this rem-



Andrew Kelley comforts his young companion in the autobiographical Dutch romance, *For a Lost Soldier*

Andrew Kelley not only wears his dog tags well, but he manages to make the soldier's attentions seem natural and compassionate.

iniscence, Krabbe's character sets a peculiarly appropriate tone of reverence for the young boy he once was.

Love and War

All is fair, as they say, and young Jan is put on a truck by his mother so he, and many other boys, can travel to the safety of the lowlands. During the war, the Dutch countryside offered a more abundant food supply and greater security than Amsterdam could provide. Assigned to a family he does not know, Jan gradually adjusts to farm life and he begins to direct his emerg-

ing sexual curiosity toward one of his young male friends.

Before this relationship can be consummated, Jan's liberator appears behind the wheel of a Jeep, tosses some candy to Jan, and substantially ups the ante. I ask you, if you were going to have your first gay male sexual experience, who would you prefer: a pimply-faced 13-year-old who is obsessed with the milkmaid's tits, or a hunky visiting soldier who gently seduces you in an abandoned farmhouse?

The relationship between the soldier and the boy has its predictable outcome, but it

leaves the participants — and the audience — with a bitter-sweet residue of remembrance that will be hard to erase. *For a Lost Soldier* is one of those true stories whose highlights would be fodder for the *National Enquirer*, but whose substance is a highly personal matter of the heart. ▼

For a Lost Soldier
(in Dutch with English subtitles)
Castro Theatre
Sunday, June 20, 7 p.m.,
Towne (San Jose)
Friday, June 18, 9 p.m.
Rating: ★★☆☆

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"BEST IN THE BIZ!"

—Bay Area Reporter

Transsexual Lesbian Kung Fu Liaison

Snow in Asia

by Nisa Donnelly

This gender-bending Kung Fu movie is being billed as starring the "first transsexual lesbian superhero," Asia the Invincible (back from *Swordsmen II*). Well, sort of.

Asia the Invincible isn't your average run-of-the-mill superhero — she's more like the goddess Inanna having a really bad day, and making sure everybody knows it. (Superheroes have lots of heart and spend most of their time looking out for the underdog. Asia the Invincible has lots of grist and spends most of her time avenging first her own death — go figure — and then those who have assumed her identity.) But it's a quibbling point for such a fast-paced, action-packed, super-charged, special effects film.

Ninja Party

From the opening scene, *The East Is Red* is lots of fun. And it has everything — well, almost — from a strange alliance between the Chinese military and a band of unscrupulous Spanish explorers (who bear a remarkable resemblance to Christopher Columbus); to a Ninja submarine clipper ship (complete with a bamboo periscope that amazingly doesn't leak upon submersion); to an ill-fated romance between the beautiful Snow and Asia; to a sword-fish that acts as a sort of

dingy to get Asia the Invincible from shore to boat — that is when she isn't flying.

Actually, there's a lot of flying in this movie. Everybody who's anybody seems to have the knack, apparently thanks to the Kung Fu teachings contained in the secret scrolls. It's probably best not to wonder if the scrolls are so secret, since so many people know how to fly. In fact, it's probably best not to wonder about a lot of inconsistencies in this film.

Raising the Dead

If people inexplicably coming back to life, narrative blips, irrational plot twists that end abruptly, marginal character development, and oddly comic and poorly translated subtitles drive you crazy — then skip *The East Is Red*. On the other hand, if you've

(Continued on next page)

If you've always wondered what you'd actually do with your legs while flying, this is the film for you.

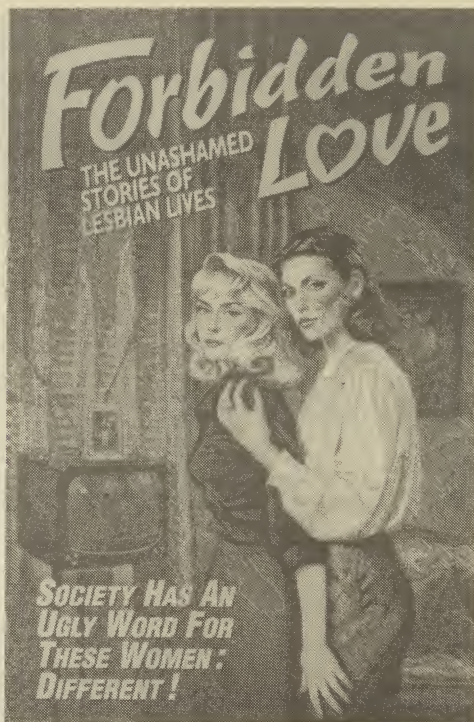
Film Festival

Facts and Fictions

by Deborah Peifer

Ah ... the world of pulp fiction. In the '50s and early '60s, before the explosion of lesbian presses, the only place lesbians could read about themselves was in sometimes steamy, usually lurid, pulp fiction. With titles like *Queer Passion* and *Daughters of Satan*, the pulp novels confirmed the existence of lesbians, even as they also proved that the wages of (lesbian) sin were undoubtedly death. Directors Aerlyn Weissman and Lynne Fernie, using the language of the pulps as a framework and starting point, have created a documentary, with drama, of lesbian life in the not-so-glorious '50s, *Forbidden Love*.

Interspersing still photos with live interviews with nine Canadian women and a hilarious dramatization of the essence of pulpiness (missing only, in a wonderfully ironic choice, the final descent into



Those lurid lesbians make a big splash in *Forbidden Love*

The women who tell their stories are wonderfully individual and engagingly articulate.

madness or suicide — these women end up together and happy about it). Weissman and Fernie remind us of the horrors of the closet and the astonishing strength of women who risked everything in order to be who they were.

The women who tell their stories are wonderfully individual and engagingly articu-

late. They are also, often, quite funny, as in a story told by one very tough (maybe) butch. One night when a group of men started to harass the women, she threatened, "I'm wearing a knife, and I know how to use it, which was utterly ridiculous—I knew how to peel potatoes with it." And I'm still laughing about the femmes who would walk up to the butches and ask, "Are you a femme? Do you where we can find the butches?"

Here are stories of women who dared to speak the name of love. Their courage is heartening, and their very real suffering makes clear the absolute necessity for all of us to blast open the closet door and to be out to the world. *Forbidden Love* is a fine piece of history, "another

telling as we break the silence of our lives." ▼

Forbidden Love
Castro Theatre; June 18, 7 p.m.
Towne Theatre (San Jose);
June 18, 7 p.m.
Rating: ★★★★★

Editor's Note: The opening night screening of *Forbidden Love* at the Castro Theatre is sold out. A limited number of tickets will be available at the Castro box office at the time of the screening. Tickets for the San Jose screening of *Forbidden Love* are still available. Tickets for the film festival's opening night gala (\$60), which include admission to *Forbidden Love* at the Castro, and dinner, desserts, and dancing at the San Francisco Mart, are also still available.



An Asian duet in *The East is Red*

Asia

(Continued from previous page)

always wondered what you'd actually do with your legs while flying, this is the film for you. (Hint: flying and bicycling seem to require many of the same moves.)

During the press screening, the audience had a great time — and from a group of semi-jaded journalists and film critics, that's saying a lot. In short, this is a colorful, fun, slick, action-packed feature film, loaded with special effects. It also contains a painfully thin and predictable

story line with the requisite happy ending. See it for fun, just don't plan on taking it seriously. ▼

The East Is Red
(in Cantonese with Chinese and English subtitles)
Friday, June 25, 6:30 p.m.
Castro Theatre
Rating: ★★★★★

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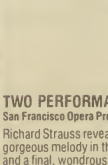
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SALOME

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Joshua Kosman, San Francisco Chronicle
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PRODUCTION: Rummicks, Hall, Aster, Bury, Munn, Keen
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Film Festival



A gay wedding from *One Nation Under God*

Powerful Primer

by Paul Bollwinkler

One *Nation Under God* is a sprawling, rambling polemic that casts the social battle between the Christian right and gay people in America in the most black-and-white terms imaginable. Through some thuddingly blunt editing, it takes all the ridiculous arguments put forward by the likes of Lou Sheldon and William Dannemeyer and slams them back in their faces.

For gay people the film's lack of objectivity will be a revelation — it attacks its central subject, "reparative therapy," with the subtlety of a sledgehammer smacking a brick wall, and for many of us, that's just what the doctor ordered.

Employing a traditional documentary structure, *One Nation Under God*, directed by Teodoro Maniaci and Francine M. Rzeznick, alternates talking heads with archival footage, including interviews with Martin Duberman, people on the street, happy gays and lesbians, unenlightened gays and lesbians, scenes of shock therapy, 1950s psychology lectures, Mike Wallace's infamous CBS '60s documentary on homosexuality, clips from Joan Rivers and Phil Donahue, a brief look at the work of Evelyn Hooker, Pat Buchanan and Dan Quayle at last year's Republican convention, the Stonewall riots, gay pride parades, an American Psychiatric Association meeting from the early '70s, and movie clips like Shirley MacLaine's breakdown in *The Children's Hour*.

A phobic therapist states that "when a man has been conditioned by society to hate and fear his homosexuality, re-orientation can be a very great relief." Then a pro-gay commentator counters, that without examining societal prejudice, the Christian right's obsession with cures must be suspect, as the film cuts to footage of Nazi persecution of gays during World War II.

In another, hilariously surreal, sequence, a woman at a "reparative therapy" clinic in-

troduces a make-over class of lesbians to a mode of physical beauty that is an "outward reflection of inner wholeness." Inch-long, painted white fingernails turn out to be an inner wholeness staple. When she then suggests softball as a therapy for gay men searching for masculine recovery, the film cuts to a New York gay baseball game where the players play happily under a rainbow banner. The power of the editing, simplistic and pointed, is undeniable.

Central Concern

The film is strongest when it sticks to its central concern, Exodus International and Love in Action, two groups offering supposed help to unhappy gays. There is a fascinating side-show freak quality to these people, so obsessed

irony, never acknowledges his nearly perfect androgyny. As he sits in a dignified ladylike pose, without a hint of facial hair and with a woman's (not a "gay") voice, he graciously and calmly spits out the most vile, self-hating rhetoric, eventually even singing the praises of William Dannemeyer. He's pathetic and mesmerizing at the same time.

The point that it isn't reparative therapy but self-acceptance that gay people need is made by Gary Cooper and Michael Bussee, two Exodus founders who later realized they had fallen in love with each other and left the group. They are the filmmakers' secret weapon, and by relating the story of their involvement in Exodus and subsequent relationship (including sharing wedding photos of themselves in ghastly powder-blue tuxedos with two best men and two grooms on their cake), they completely destroy whatever credibility Rogers and Moberly may have hoped to achieve.

By the end, when Dan Quayle, talking about family values, is juxtaposed with shots of Cooper and Bussee taking their four children to an amusement park, only the most dull-witted viewer (and of course there are millions to be found) will think of endorsing reparative therapy.

While Rzeznick and Maniaci state that their film is designed to examine therapies designed to "cure" homosexuality, in reality they go way beyond that and take us on a whirlwind history of the gay movement in America. That, ironically, is both the film's strength and its weakness: they go in so many directions that their subject often gets lost along the way. By the end *One Nation Under God* feels like a full semester crash course crammed into an 83-minute film — a powerful primer for sure, but one that makes the film's successes seem almost like an accident. ▼

For gay
people the
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objectivity
will be a
revelation.

with homosexuality as a sin that they've created businesses out of offering redemption to gays and lesbians.

Elizabeth Moberly, who dresses like a Gestapo schoolmarm and speaks with the nonchalant authority of someone who's never challenged a traditional thought in her life, talks about masculine and feminine identities as if boys played sports in the womb. Another woman, a counselor at the Glad Tidings Tabernacle in New York, tells how she has cast demonic powers from the anal canals of gay men who had received "ungodly deposits of semen and all sorts of other filth."

Topping them both though is Sy Rogers, an avowed former homosexual who now works as an Exodus executive and counselor. Rogers is the main voice for the film's right wing and, with jolting

One Nation Under God
Castro Theatre; June 19,
4:30 p.m.
Pacific Film Archive; June 20,
8:45 p.m.
Towne Theatre (San Jose); June
22, 6:45 p.m.
Rating: ★★☆☆

Film Festival

Jewish Gays and Lesbians on the Silver Screen

Encouraging Prospect

by Roberto Friedman

Jewishness has a storytelling tradition — it's a way we deal with the complexities of our existence," says Marc Smolowitz, who has curated three programs devoted to lesbian and gay Jewish works at the Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. *Deaf Heaven* is one such program, five films which play the Castro Theatre at noon on Sunday, June 20. Significantly, the set of films is a co-ed offering.

"Jewish lesbians and gays have always been a community where men and women come together," explains Smolowitz. With these gender-mixed programs, gay men see lesbian works they might not otherwise seek out, and vice versa. This is an encouraging prospect to me. Too often the lines outside the festival screenings are comic: all boys waiting to see the boy movies, all girls to see the girl movies. The good showing of Asian and Jewish-themed programs this year ensures great cross-fertilization. And you certainly don't have to be Jewish to appreciate the Jewish programs.

Deaf Heaven is a diverse collection, from the sentimental *Harold and Hiroshi* (directed by Ed Askinazi), a romance between Jewish and Japanese boys at school on the eve of (you guessed it) Pearl Harbor, to the lyrical and mysterious *I Will Not Think About Death Anymore* (directed by Irene Bunce), in which a Canadian lesbian confronts death in the form of a tough Jewish dyke on a mo-



The hospital room in *Deaf Heaven*

tence, and survivor guilt without heavy-handedness, all in 29 minutes.

Finally, director Elaine Holliman's *Chicks in White Satin* documents the wedding ceremony of two Jewish lesbians. When the brides kiss under the *chupah* and simultaneously break glasses (which the woman rabbi claims represents the end of hatred, bigotry, and homophobia), Jewish ritual and tradition do seem to lend themselves to contemporary, same-sex unions.

Indeed, many of these films' characters are informed by their heritage as Jews: the young man in *Deaf Heaven* learns from a Holocaust witness; the woman in *I Will Not Think About Death Anymore* whose friends keep dying remembers prayers and rites from her childhood. I wonder, though, that none of these films confronts Judaism as an institution, one that is based on quite a proscriptive code of behaviors, a religion heavily invested in transgression and sin. As a gay man, my embrace of Jewish culture is tempered by my rejection of many of its laws and pre-suppositions. Yet I am grateful to Smolowitz for creating programs in which I can see the concerns and stories of Jewish lesbians and gay men up on the silver screen. ▼

Deaf Heaven
Castro Theatre: June 20, noon
Rating: ★★☆☆

Editor's Note: If you miss Sunday's screening, the film *Deaf Heaven* will be screened at the Castro Theatre on Sunday, July 18, at 3:30 p.m. as part of the Jewish Film Festival. Director Steve Levitt will be there in person.

The good showing of Asian and Jewish-themed programs this year ensures great cross-fertilization.

torcycle. *Seth's Aunts* (directed by Nina Dabek) is a delightful three-minute appetizer which captures the unbiased innocence of a child.

AIDS Metaphor

Deaf Heaven, the film directed by Steve Levitt which gives the program its title, is a greatly moving piece centering on a young man losing his lover to AIDS. His encounter with a survivor of the Nazi concentration camps helps him understand his life as a witness to inconceivable suffering. The metaphor of AIDS as another Holocaust has always seemed to me unfair to the historical particulars of both horrors, but in *Deaf Heaven* the parallel works, because it is presented not in political terms, but on personal grounds. Both tragedies have created interrupted lives on a grand scale. *Deaf Heaven* addresses issues such as faith, compe-

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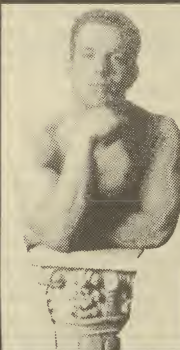
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Film Festival

Seeing Is Believing

by Orland Outland

After a brief obsession with gay characters in fictional films (sparked by negative presentations like *Basic Instinct* and *Silence of the Lambs*), the success of *Paris Is Burning* and *Sex Is ...* are signs of revived interest in the gay documentaries that present our lives and preserve our history. We need to see gay people in Hollywood movies, too, but Hollywood needs to show commercially presentable (i.e., respectable) gay images: Tom Hanks in the upcoming *Philadelphia* is a gay man with AIDS, but he's also a lawyer; Kelly Lynch and Sherilyn Fenn in *Three of Hearts* are lesbians, but they're also respectively a nurse and a teacher.

Most gay people remain social outcasts, some of them by choice. Despite the need for positive role models, the fact remains that in art (and possibly in life), outcasts are more interesting than nurses and lawyers. To see them, we need these short films — records of people Hollywood will never make movies about.

D-Days at the Eye Gallery — Program One

Admission to all Eye Gallery programs is free.

Program One runs Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, June 21, 23, and 25 from noon to 8 p.m. All films available for press preview have been reviewed.

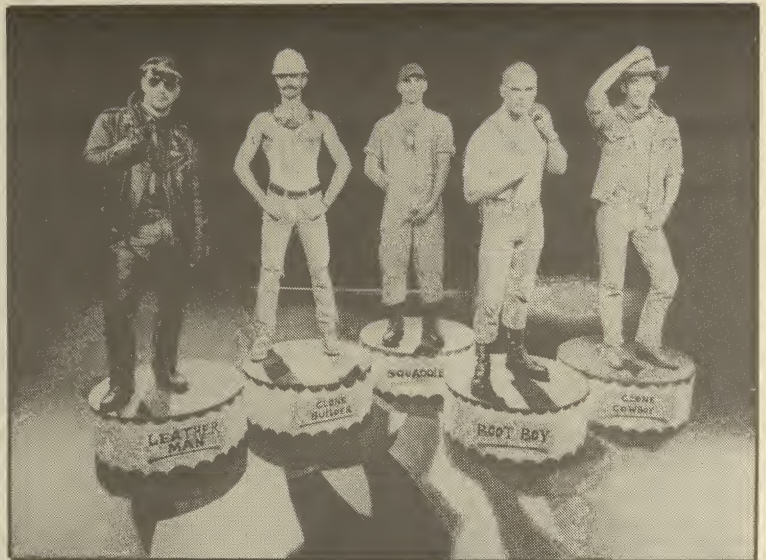
Rating: ☆☆☆☆

Ladyboys
Noon; 60 mins.

Female impersonators in Thailand. It ain't Star Bar: Thailand's transvestite beauty pageants fill stadiums, pageant winners become cabaret stars, and many of Bangkok's drag venues are giant, respectable theaters, making the city the Branson, Missouri of cross-dressing. But all is not glamour — the "kato" are despised in the countryside, and in the city those who can't get work at the respectable theaters often prostitute themselves in sleazy bars with names like "Go Orgy Go." A sad film, but still oddly glamorous and entirely fascinating.

Other Families
6 p.m., 15 mins.

A history of the rise, and fall, of the American Family. The film is made up of home movies from the late '50s/early '60s, overlaid with a narration that consists of readings from Marx, William Safire, the Oxford English Dictionary, and some academic gay theorists. Ever so slightly ironic, ever so slightly didactic (and a brilliant idea), this



Skin Complex, unavailable for preview, but included in Program One at the Eye Gallery

piece needs to be seen more than once to grasp the nuances and see the links between the home movies and the quotes attached to them.

Rating: ☆☆☆

Queens of Columbus
1 p.m., 28 mins.

Any history of drag has to face comparisons with *Paris Is Burning*, but *Queens* is about an entirely different subculture from *Paris'* cult of "realness." These are "traditional" drag queens — white males imagining themselves as white female stars, playing

out Hollywood fantasies in sad tatty Midwestern bars. This film boasts high production values and lighting that can almost make you forget it's shot on video and not film.

Storm In a Teacup
1:30 p.m., 44 mins.

If you've listened to Morrissey's "Piccadilly Palare" a hundred times and are still wondering what the hell's a Palare, this documentary about gay life in London from WWII to the '60s will enlighten you. There really was a time when gay people led double lives, spoke a secret language, and dreaded police raids and arrests. In typical British fashion, even these social exiles divided themselves along class lines. A little dragy sometimes but interesting.

Sex Wars
3:50 p.m., 30 mins.

Gay men vs. lesbians in Britain in this Channel Four *Out* episode. It's apparently a bigger issue there than here, as evidenced by the many bars and clubs advertising "Men Only." The film addresses the use of the word "queer" as an attempt to unify gay men and lesbians, but skirts how "queer" itself has become an exclusionary concept if you aren't young, fashionable, and Leftist. Gays, lesbians and queers who see this movie will definitely have something to talk about afterwards.

She Thrills Me
4:30 p.m., 15 mins.

Young lesbians talking about sex. Funny and interesting historical document about a sea change in lesbian relations.

Call Me Your Girlfriend
4:45 p.m., 21 mins.

The festival program calls her "British lesbian singer Rita Lynch," but your expectations will be smashed: she's no Holly Near. A lesbian rock singer is an exile in both the male-dominated rock world, and in the "women's music" world. This should have been paired on the program with "Nobody's People" (see Program 2). Her music's pretty good, too.

Dear Rock
6:15 p.m., 18 mins.

A letter to Rock Hudson from an ambivalent fan. Visu-

We need these short films — records of people Hollywood will never make movies about.

ally attractive, sometimes beautiful, but the narrative moves from the personal to the polemical over the course of the film. Generic canned radical denouncements can't sum up what Hudson was and wasn't.

Fertile La Toyah Jackson
Video Magazine
6:55 p.m., 53 mins.

"Hi!!!!!!, this is Vaginal Daaaaavis!" Noted zine publisher and gossip columnist Vaginal Creme Davis has a voice that could grate cheese from a hundred yards away. It's the voice of social pleasantries taken to its ultimate, maybe natural, extreme. Miss Davis and her associate, Tourette's victim Fertile La Toyah Jackson, bring you a one-hour *Electric City* episode. Of course Miss Davis continues her proud tradition of outing every homo in Hollywood. A very funny show.

Rating: ☆☆

Glad To Be Gay, Right?
2:30 p.m., 48 mins.

Made for Dutch TV, this film features five young talking heads relating their coming out experiences. The stories are old news for S.F. gays, but still, if this had been made for American TV we would have been thrilled to death. This video's presence on Dutch TV and all of Britain's *OUT* on Four pieces highlight the overwhelming cowardice of American television in dealing with gay issues.

Gridlock
3:20 p.m., 28 mins.

This film puts out a lot of information about women and AIDS, but feels like a lecture with a few clips of an ACT UP demo at the Centers for Disease Control. Good facts, boring film. See *I'm You, You're Me* on Program 2 instead.

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Film Festival

(Continued from previous page)

Queers Are Not Enough
5:15 p.m., 30 mins.

A film about inclusion and exclusion at the 1990 Gay Games that excludes all males from the dialogue. There's some hilarious whining ("I'm not an athlete, but I wanted to feel included.") but you'll also hear real issues about assimilation and compromise on the part of the organizers, who made sure that only the "wholesome" participants were presented to Toronto's straight media. The Dorothy Allison segment is the best part of this movie.

Rating: ☆
All The Time
2:20 p.m., 4 mins.

This "tribute" to lesbian/gay heroes should be moving. It isn't. Gay schmalz is still schmalz. Background music provided by Dionne Warwick, who recently found a more appropriate venue for her "talent" on the Psychic Friends Network.

D-Days at the Eye Gallery — Program Two

Program Two runs Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, June 22, 24, and 26, from noon to 8 p.m.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Green on Thursdays
12:10 p.m., 80 mins.

Unlike *Bashing*, which precedes it on the program (see below — way below), this film is about both gay-bashing and a community's response to it. Filmed in Chicago, not known for its tolerant or enlightened police force, *Green on Thursdays* is an indictment of the judicial system and a black celebration of gay resistance. This is what a documentary should be — reporting at its finest, and so crisply edited and directed that it could put many 60 Minutes segments to shame.

Nobody's People
1:30 p.m., 7 mins.

If David Byrne did a version of *True Stories* about a kind, ardent Christian and lesbian porn writer, Red Jordan Arobateau would have to be the star — she's a fascinating exile. This movie could be several times longer than its seven minutes and it would still hold you spellbound.

Beyond Outcasts
2:50 p.m., 35 mins.

The life of HIV-positive people in Cuba, where being infected is literally a crime. Those in America who trumpet Cuba's model of care for HIV-infected people should watch this film and hang their heads in shame. There is no difference between Fidel Castro and Jesse Helms other than the structure of their rhetoric, and that the former has the power to enforce his agenda.

Any film banned in the country in which it was made, as this one was, deserves to be seen regardless of its quality. But this film deserves to be seen because it is an excellent documentary — a fine balance of interviews with the imprisoned, their relatives, and government officials. The filmmakers were

branded as "counterrevolutionaries" and forced to flee the country. Please, see this movie.

I'm You, You're Me
5:30 p.m., 26 mins.

Women prisoners and ex-prisoners living with HIV are trying to stay off drugs, raise their kids, and help other women in the same situation. None of these women are well-educated or versed in PC-speak; as a result, their stories have the immense power that is almost always lacking in first-party reports filtered through a political consciousness. If the will to live can get the infected through to the end of the AIDS pandemic, these women will survive.

Rating: ☆☆☆
My Mother's Secret
1:40 p.m., 18 mins.

It's hard enough to have to think about your parents having sex at all, let alone having to deal with one of them coming out of the closet — especially if you're too young to understand your own sexuality. This is the case with many of the children in this film (which was made by a straight woman whose own mother came out to her when she was young). This work provides additional ingredients for that proverbial soup of anger and ambivalence: our relationship with our parents.

Cholo Joto
3:30 p.m., 12 mins.

Gay Latino men on the outside of straight Latino culture, and gay white culture. Three personal stories and damning evidence from the gay media make a strong statement about stereotypes of gay Latinos.

Blue Boys
3:30 p.m., 25 mins.

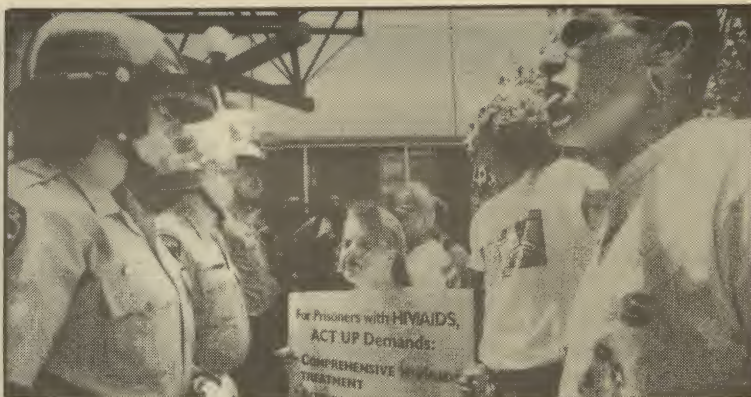
How England's Scotland Yard and a handful of blue noses conspired to make gay SM sex and pornography illegal, without Parliament having to do it. Another argument about the need for a constitution in England.

All Out Comedy
6:30 p.m., 78 mins.

Not exactly a documentary, but hey — it's funny! And believe me, you need a laugh at the end of 16 hours of documentaries. Starring Marilyn Pittman, Karen Ripley, Tom Ammanio, and Scott Capurro — Capurro's startling and unexpected dramatic riff on the lifestyles of the closeted and famous is a four-star piece of performance art. Lots of laughs here.

Rating: ☆☆
Two Spirits
2 p.m., 27 mins.

It's nice to see articulate, educated Native Americans talk about being gay, but this film is too exclusively devoted to the articulate and educated. It ends up a standard tractarian laundry list of "oppressed people's" complaints. The interviewees all lack personal stories; instead they are obsessed with defining their labels — "as a Native American ..." "because I am a person of color, ..." etc. What the film is missing is the perspective of the four-star film *I'm You, You're Me* — "ordinary" people trying to get along in both the straight and the white gay worlds.



Activists confront California State Police in Sacramento from *Acting Up for Prisoners*, part of Program Two at the Eye Gallery

Love Makes a Family
4 p.m., 16 mins.

Gay parents talk about raising kids. It's tender, but dull. Check out *My Mother's Secret* earlier in this program instead.

Cut Sleeve
4:30 p.m., 24 mins.

Gay and Asian in America. Uninteresting talking heads interspersed with long, pointless, almost Warholesque clips of people serving dinner, sitting around reading a book, etc.

Exits
5:15 p.m., 10 mins.

A lesbian recounts her partner's diagnosis and death from cancer, and the spiritual path the disease set them on. Unfortunately, her complete acceptance of her partner's

death makes it hard for us to care, for us to be upset, and we *should* be upset when people die young. An oddity: the video ends with a picture of the dead woman's newspaper obituary, where she is listed as "survived by her parents"; no mention is made of her longtime companion.

Acting Up for Prisoners
6 p.m., 27 mins.

Conditions at Frontera Prison, where women with HIV are quarantined from the general population, then denied medical care. Conditions in Frontera's quarantine cell block are barbarous, and this film does a good job of exposing them, but there are no interviews with state officials (everything the officials attempted to say during the ACT UP sitdown was, of course, shouted down). A documentary risks becoming

Wertmulleresque propaganda if it presents only one side of the issue.

Rating: ☆☆
Bashing
Noon, 10 mins.

This one opens and closes with a shot of a gay man's dead body, and consists of ten minutes of first-person stories about being gay-bashed. The victims talk about wanting to defend themselves, but they all end up defenseless, in puddles of blood. You feel bashed yourself by the end. For a gay audience, the message of this film is that you're going to get the shit beat out of you, if you haven't already, and there's nothing you can do about it before or after the fact. Movies like this are why they invented the word "disempowering." Check out *Green On Thursdays*, which immediately follows it on the program, instead. ▼

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Back-stroking Boys Meet Lusty Lifeguards

Pool Daze

by Chad Jones

Check out the contents of gay men's shorts — short films that is — at the film festival. The collection of shorts entitled *Boys Just Want to Have Fun: New Gay Short Films I*, is comprised of six films that offer sweetly sentimental coming out tales, raunchy pre-tension, frolicking finger sex and inscrutable artiness.

The two best shorts have similar tales to tell about coming out and first love. Brian Sloan's *Pool Days* is the story of 17-year-old Justin (Josh Weinstein from *One Life to Live*), the new lifeguard at a health club pool. Justin settles into his job only to discover himself the object of affection of Vicky the aerobics instructor (Kimberly Flynn), and Russell, a hunky swimmer played by Nick Poletti.

It's fun to watch Weinstein's Justin waver between

his male and female admirers, knowing all along he'll end up with Russell, who tells him, "There's a lot more to life than just being friends." Director Sloan guides the story beautifully through the sexually charged atmosphere of a swimming pool and health club with sweaty stops in the showers, locker room and steam bath, all the while imbuing the proceedings with an accurately sexy adolescent ache.

Robert Lee King's *Disco Years* is another coming-of-age/coming out film. The disco year is 1978 and sweet Kathie-Lee Gifford look-alike Tom (Matt Nolan) has fallen in love with studly Matt (Russell Scott Lewis), a compatriot on the school tennis team. After a drunken swimming pool tryst with Tom (again with the swimming pools — do all gay men have adolescent sexual fantasies involving swimming pools?), Matt shrugs it off with a casual "I don't even



Ma Vie, from Boys Just Want to Have Fun

remember that night," and gets himself a girlfriend.

Confused and hurt, Tom turns to his nutty mother, badly played by Gwen Welles whose bad acting and bad hair are straight out of a John Waters movie. Director King has given this modern day

Maurice the feeling of a '70s artifact with smirky, goopy touches like slow-motion romance and Sylvester on the soundtrack.

This is Your Life

French-Canadian Denis Langlois works through some existential angst in *Ma Vie*, an interesting trek through the major chapters of the filmmaker's life: coming out to his mother, his search for love, and finally settling into a relationship. Langlois has crafted a stylish biography that concludes with a glimpse into a fantasy future with his dead lover and their adopted son.

Local comedian Scott Capurro and filmmaker Bohdan Zachary begin this collection with *Loverville 2: The Honymoon*, a cutesy chapter in Capurro's famed finger saga. Capurro uses his index fingers to portray his former roommate Lee and Lee's lover Rob. Chapter one had the fingers having loud, but funny sex (imagine what Capurro could do with the Yellow Pages!). Chapter two follows the pair to Paris for

Do all gay men have adolescent sexual fantasies involving swimming pools?

some three-way action with Pierre and some amusing lovers' squabbles.

Rounding out this collection are Isaac (*Young Soul Rebels*) Julien's *The Attendant*, an artsy, whimsical tale about the fantasy life of a lusty museum guard and Billy Lux's *Mark Called*, a slightly raunchy black-and-white piece of film school dreck involving telephone conversations and the great falls of Paterson, New Jersey. ▼

Boys Just Want to Have Fun: New Gay Short Films I
Saturday, June 19, noon
Castro Theatre
Rating: ★★☆☆

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The Ridiculous And the Sublime

by Jim Coughenour

A program of video shorts is the easiest way to see what the new queer filmmakers are up to. *Love Me, Leave Me, Slap Me, Pierce Me ... But Make it Short* offers a typical assortment of intellectually inert "conceptual" pieces and a few wonderful surprises. For example:

Thomas Allen Harris' *Black Body* features an indeterminate torso tied up with rope or wire. Superimposed on this struggling form is the message "Black body is ..." followed by a series of apparently random associations. *Black Body* is a cultural Rorschach test gone awry.

John Eric Spitzer's *Master-ba-shun* is another one-idea video, featuring five grainy minutes of some very tedious solo action. Spitzer's wobbly camera focuses on every angle of his masturbating bodies except the one shot any viewer might be interested in. These evasions are in-

terspersed with terse, interpretative "messages": Narcissism, Blindness, Insanity, Safe Sex. Spitzer left out Boring, but maybe it's subliminal.

Gender-bender

In *100 Minutes With Sasha*, Hans Gelkeruta Stork offers us instant pathos in the figure of Sasha, a somewhat melancholy creature of indeterminate gender who grew up among rednecks. After tests which proved that s/he had more female hormones than male, Sasha was given a choice: "Either go to the state hospital for four years or move to San Francisco." Which would you choose?

William Comstock's *Out in the Streets* is a three-minute marvel of noir. Deidre-Belle Finley syncs her mournful song about ex-boyfriend (Mistress Formika) who doesn't "hang out with the gang no more." Grotesque, disturbing and perversely enchanting.

My favorite tape is *Marta: Portrait of a Teen Activist*. (Continued on next page)

Hot 'Talk'

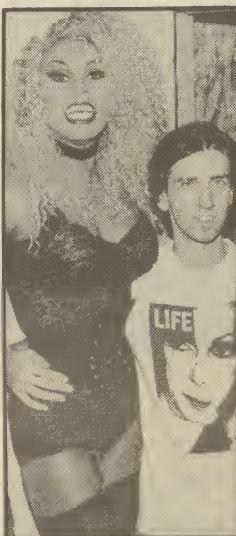
by Mark Freeman

Picking a program of short subjects at the festival is sort of like getting dealt a hand of poker. "Talk That Toc," sponsored by the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance, consists of five cutting-edge videos. Two are aces, and you may like some of the others, too.

Bare, by Canadian dyke Tien Pee, got left out of the description in the catalog, which is a real pity since it's one of the best. As you watch hair falling to the floor, a coy voice is heard. "Some people grow their hair. Some people dye their hair. I shave my hair. (giggle) Some people," she adds in distaste, "perm their hair!" With that we shift to mug shots of talking heads, three of them, all gorgeous lesbians shaving their scalps.

Afro-Canadian Janise (four months shaved) explains that "hair's really an important part of identity ... and what you do with it is a form of expressing the kind of control that you have." River, a Chinese-Canadian bald two years, admits that "it is a retaliation against the stereotype of the passive Asian woman, which I'm not — and I know lots of people out there are not." Ginger, a "white" girl in her twenties (shaved for ten years), hates that it has become trendy, but likes the fact that she never has to buy shampoo.

What makes this piece work is its ease — these women share winning smiles and knowing glances that prove to us how much they trust the videomaker; we get included in their intimacy. So when Janise recalls her youth when she was focused on having "better" hair and asks a rhetorical question: "How straight [does hair] have to be to make other people happy?" she's really speaking for all of us.



RuPaul (left, of course) in *Tough Love Smart Weapons* from the *Love Me, Leave Me* program

(Continued from previous page)

Marta is not a well woman — although s/he's (apparently) quite a star on the Atlanta



From *Toc Storee*

(Photo: Tran T. Kim-Trang)

Unconditionally Wonderful

The other unconditionally wonderful work on the bill, *Fated to Be Queer*, is by Pablo Tapay Bautista of San Francisco via the Philippines. Four gay Filipinos talk about being *bakla* back home, come to grips with California's brave new world, share "first-time" stories that send chills, camp it up, relive coming out as a political act. Brilliant editing cuts five stories together into one hypnotic journey from Catholicism, self-hatred, and insecurity to a laughing, loving circle of approval and eroticism. For Asian men, a previously ignored group, this is no small success.

As you listen to the voices of these four men, they could be you. John, the eldest of the group, recalls that "at a young age, my grandparents knew, or suspected, that I was going to be the effeminate grand-

son, the 'nanny' boy, the sensitive delicate boy." Vince and Jose each remember first sexual experiences while still children. "Who cares about gay identity? I didn't know anything about that. What I knew was something more primal." Tony acts as taxi tour guide to the Castro

Brilliant editing cuts five stories together into one hypnotic journey in *Fated to Be Queer*.

(though never feeling he fully fits in there), graciously waving at "his fans" and adding, "I'd like to thank all the little people that I've stepped on ..."

Both of these videographers ask the right questions and then get out of the way, allowing others to tell their stories. Two other pieces on the bill are more "post-modern," in the '80s sense of focusing almost entirely on oneself. Gita Saxena, in *Second Generation Once Removed*, deals with being mixed race, a key 21st-century issue, and lists her own name nine times in the credits. Ming-Yuen Ma's *Toc Storee* interviews gay Asians, documents activism, shows sexuality, mouths bilingualism, quotes tradition. But it's diffracted in a studentlike way: deconstructing before first learning how to construct. This is monologue, not storytelling.

The fifth video, *Chinaman's Peak* by Paul Wong, uses some of the same multi-level techniques but more effectively, an interesting attempt to heal both historic racism and a newer AIDS grief. As dealt, it's a full hand, and may well be a full house.

Talk That Toc: Language, Fiction, and Testimony
Roxie; June 19, 2 p.m.
Rating: ★★

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ACT-UP circuit. Homely (but with a certain febrile flair), Marta sparkles with pithy wisdom. "People should concentrate more on love and not hate and they should slow down," s/he says after being pushed down in the street. Simultaneously inspiring and absurdist, this ten-minute documentary provides a priceless snapshot of one moment in the struggle for human rights. Superb!

Equally delightful is Patrick Snee's *Letter of Introduction*, a six-minute ficcione worthy of Borges. A confusion of identities leads to that miracle of queer miracles: true love blooming out of the ambiguous anomie of gay life. Never mind that no one ever meets the man he's supposed to: why cavil at happiness? Snee's video has a sinister undertone that hints at brilliance. ▼

Love Me, Leave Me, Slap Me
Saturday, June 19 at 8 p.m. and
Saturday, June 26 at 10:30 p.m.
Roxie Theatre
Rating: ★★

Editor's Note: The two screenings of *Love Me, Leave Me...* are sold out. A limited number of tickets will be available at the Roxie box office just before showtime.

Backstage Romance from Taiwan

Tragic Aria

by Nisa Donnelly

This fragile, but stirring tale of shattered dreams and dying traditions provides a rare and often disturbing view of backstage life in a traveling opera company in modern-day Taiwan.

It is a world in which children are bought and sold, and women aspire to play the "tragic character" (the starring role in traditional opera). The irony, of course, is that these women are already playing tragic roles in their painful day-to-day lives, as they are shuttled from town to town and are forced into becoming exotic dancers to attract the attention of ever-dwindling audiences that are no longer interested in tradition or opera.

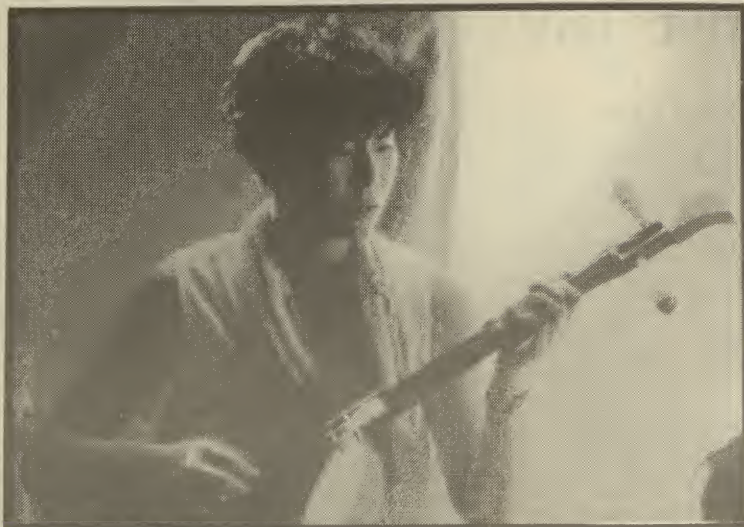
Yuh, a stage-struck teenager, joins this rag-tag troupe of performers and is drawn into the intrigue and desperation

of a world that only vaguely resembles the one she dreamed of as a child in the audience. Chu, one of the performers who has been promised stardom, but who has been relegated to minor roles and exotic dancing, is surprised that anyone would actually seek to join their life. "We all grew up in the troupe," she explains.

As the days unfold in monotonizing sameness, the grim reality begins to set in that there is no hope of escape. Those who try, only end up running to other troupes where more broken promises, more strip shows and more prostitution await.

Male Domination

Their world is fueled by women's talents, but the few men attached to the troupe and the notorious "Boss" both exploit and control the women's lives. The relentless sexism in this film becomes al-



From *The Silent Thrush*

most too painful to bear at times. In one scene, the stage manager holds up his infant

son telling the boy proudly, "Mom's doing the strip show."

But the women, at least some of them, find comfort in each other. The troupe accepts lesbians without judgment or question. "It's common in the troupes," Yuh is told by one of the senior members. And the naive Yuh is ultimately pursued by two company members—one who was once a star and another who still is. Complicated triangles ensue, but even these romances are stark and futile, offering little hope, love, or even real support against such a tragic backdrop.

Based on the novel by Ling Yen, *Silent Thrush* is brooding but never boring. It is confusing early on, as characters and events are introduced in rapid succession. Also, because the film is subtitled, cultural nuances are sometimes lost in translation. But the film is so well done

The relentless sexism in this film becomes almost too painful to bear at times.

and the tragedy it depicts so universal, that viewers find themselves drawn into this story.

This film is being billed as a tale of backstage lesbian romance, which it is, but it is equally a haunting exploration of what happens to people's lives and dreams when a culture is dying. ▼

Silent Thrush
(in Hokkien and Mandarin with English subtitles)
Castro Theatre, 8:30 p.m.,
Saturday, June 19 and
2:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 23
Towne Theatre in San Jose at
2 p.m., Sunday, June 20
Rating: ★★☆☆

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Belle

Dreams With a Message

by Deborah Peifer

What if we lived in a world where dreams came true? More daring perhaps, what if we lived in a world where we were not afraid to have dreams? What

would our lives be like if we could dream and live our dreams? Dutch director Irma Achten raises these questions and more in a film that is luxurious in its texture, pointed in its philosophy, and hopeful in its message.

(Continued on next page)

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Agony With a Light Touch

by Jim Coughenour

Twinkle has the standard elements of a French sex comedy — a *mariage de convenance* between a young couple, a household shared with the husband's lover, and two sets of agitated parents who require bourgeois normality at any cost — except that in this case, the husband's lover is a man and it all happens in Japan.

Shoko (Japanese teen queen Hiroko Yakushimaru) is a lovely young translator fresh out of detox. Mutsuki (Etsushi Toyokawa) is a bright young doctor with a pretty boyfriend. Shoko and Mutsuki's parents decide that it is time for their children to respectably marry and make the appropriate arrangements. Shoko and Mutsuki are less than thrilled, but this being Japan, they dutifully marry. Kon, Mutsuki's pretty boyfriend, pouts.

It isn't long before inevitable tensions emerge. Shoko starts drinking again and compulsively irons the sheets on the bed her husband refuses to share with her. Mutsuki, kind and clueless, offers Shoko some damaged gestures of tenderness, then slips out for sex with Kon. Kon continues to pout.

As everyone is sexy, young, and restless, the trio does the only sensible thing and invites Kon to move in. But as everyone's needs are also asymmetric, this *menage a trois* is doomed from the

start. Shoko continues to drink, Mutsuki remains traditionally autistic, and Kon ... pouts.

Twinkle is never more or less than charming.

Directed by George Matsuoka, *Twinkle* is never more or less than charming. The film's pace rarely falters, and the pain its characters must endure is masked by Matsuoka's light touch. *Twinkle* is romantic agony without the angst. Hiroko Yakushimaru's Shoko — the axis on which the film turns — is adorably plucky, but she's finally defeated by a love that can't include her. Her unhappiness is what gives *Twinkle* its heart, but it's also the problem the film fails to solve.

The domestic dilemma in *Twinkle* is familiar: Mutsuki can't marry the person he loves and can't love the person he marries. The passion between Mutsuki and his lover is convincing precisely because it's understated. In one poignant scene toward the end of the film, Kon asks Mutsuki, "Do you love me?" "Yes," Mutsuki finally answers. It's the answer we want to hear, but it's the word that finally turns *Twinkle*



A day at the lake in *Twinkle*

kle from a comedy into a tragedy. Well, almost. It's impossible to take a film with characters as winsome as these three too seriously, no matter how much they suffer.

Twinkle
Castro Theatre: June 20,
2:15 p.m.
Towne Theatre (San Jose):
June 22, 8:45 p.m.
Rating: ★★



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Dreams

(Continued from previous page)

Belle is the story of a women's search for herself and for purpose in her life. She finds joy and love with a woman, but the pressures of societal disapprobation cause her to leave Marthe and to seek fulfillment in a straight marriage complete with boy children. But *Belle* cannot disappear into society's approval and, on the day of her wedding, she meets a stranger who teaches her about dreams. Will *Belle* take the lesson of dreaming to heart? Or will fear keep her trapped in the dreamless world she inhabits?

This is a charming film, one that deserves to be seen in a theatre rather than on TV. Shot in black and white,

Belle is rich in shadings of gray. The juxtaposition of stark reality with the surprisingly gentle realism of the dreams is particularly impressive. A scene with swans, a pond, and the stranger is delightful, redolent with sexuality and possessing a visual humor that is refreshing and pointed.

In Dutch with English subtitles, *Belle* is an art film that is not afraid to have feelings, to be human. The acting is uniformly excellent, and the love scenes between *Belle* and Marthe are particularly noteworthy. Achten is not afraid to take all the time she needs to establish their relationship, and the result is a splendid exploration of life, love, and fantasy.

Belle is a stunning film where technique serves the aims of the plot and not the vanity of the director. Irma Achten is a filmmaker to watch, one who creates astonishing moments and allows her actors room to fill them.

Belle
Pacific Film Archive: June 19,
9:30 p.m.
Towne Theatre (San Jose): June
23, 8:45 p.m.
Castro: June 26, 5:15 p.m.
Rating: ★★★★★

Belle is the story of a women's search for herself and for purpose in her life.

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Swimming

Small Team Champs Threatened by Pool Closure

Tsunami Defends IGLA Title

by Rick Windes

Bolstered by another sterling effort from their top-end age group swimmers, the San Francisco Recreation and Park's Tsunami Gay and Lesbian Masters Swim Club successfully defended their Small Team Swimming Title at the International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics Championships in Chicago over Memorial Day Weekend. This sixth IGLA gathering (held in non-Gay Games years) featured over 250 swimmers from 23 clubs in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia, competing in swimming, water polo, and (of course) the Pink Flamingo Relay at the University of Illinois at Chicago's indoor 50-meter pool.

The 14-swimmer Tsunami squad shared their swimming title with 17 swimmers from the recently formed Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics (AQUA) team. Each team tallied 269 points, followed by the Team Seattle Orca Swim Club in third place with 251 points.

West Hollywood Aquatics made it a "three-peat" in between the Games as their 856 points easily outdistanced Team New York Aquatics (705) and host team Chicago Smelts (614) in the Large Team (over 30 swimmers) standings. The San Diego Cygnets were Water Polo Champions, while West Hollywood delighted the crowd with a salute to lesbians and gays in the military that earned them the coveted Pink Flamingo Trophy.

One woman and two men from the 45-49 age group accounted for over 100 Tsunami points as they took seven gold and five silver medals. Jan Michaels was a three-time champion, taking the women's 100 meter back in 1:58.8, 50 meter free in 40.99, and the 100 meter free in 1:33.11. Kris Nergaard successfully defended his 400 meter individual medley crown with a 7:38.75 clocking, and doubled in the 400 meter free.

The outstanding effort of the meet, and possibly the year, came from 48-year-old John Tobey. Near death this



Checking the heat sheets in Chicago's IGLA Championships

(Photo: Dale Zink)

past winter after a severe bout with PCP, John came down from his IGLA and Gay Games specialties, the 400 and 1500 freestyle events, to earn gold medals in the 50 and 200 meter freestyles at 32.26 and 2:45.85 respectively. John then joined teammates Nergaard, Rick Windes, and Tsunami Coach Cris Allen as their 400-meter freestyle relay

sliced four seconds off their old IGLA record in a runner-up performance against West Hollywood in the men's 160-199 age group.

Rounding out the Tsunami parade of individual champions were Robert Shuler and Tod Hill. Bob won the 50 meter free in the men's 35-39 category with a time of 28.16, while Tod outgripped his fellow 25-29 year-old men to win the 400 meter free in that age group with a solid 4:44 effort. Other Tsunami medalists included both Tsunami co-chairs, Suzanne Frank and Dale Zink, Coach Cris Allen,

Enrique Erosa, and Tate Varela.

In the Small Team trophy race where, according to Coach Allen, "every swim counted, and we needed every point," Ralph Doore and Chris Neal added crucial individual scores, while Lee Moulton contributed to the Tsunami relay effort.

Possible Pool Closure

Unfortunately, San Francisco's current fiscal morass may doom the Tsunami. Arguably the most successful gay and lesbian aquatics pro-

(Continued on next page)

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Five Gold Medalists in swimming from Gay Games I reunite in Chicago (clockwise from top left) Cris Allen, Mark Wussler, Charles Carson, Mauro Bordovsky, and Rick Windes

(Photo: Suzanne Frank)

Swimming



Tsunami swimmers go fruit

(Photo: Suzanne Frank)

(Continued from previous page)

gram in history, with over 400 swimmers participating for fun, fitness, and competition since Gay Games I in 1982, the pride of Gay Games Aquatics and four-time IGLA champions will be without a pool under a budget proposal to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors by the Recreation & Park Department (SFRP).

According to a source at City Hall, the proposed aquatics plan, drafted by Superintendent of Recreation Joel Robinson and approved by General Manager Mary Burns, proposes to permanently close the Tsunami's home, Hamilton Pool, along with North Beach Pool. Under this plan, Coffman Pool will be closed during summer months, and King Pool during autumn, winter, and spring months. Additionally, the remaining year-around city pools, Balboa, Garfield, Rossi, and Sava (Mission is summer only) will close on Sundays.

The mayor asked SFRP to cut \$5 million from its budget. Clearly Robinson and Burns want a disproportionate share of this to come at the expense of the city's pools. The proposed losses are staggering: 36 percent reduction in pool facilities (25 percent permanent), 41 percent loss of available pool days, over 10 percent layoff reduction in the 85-person deck staff, and over \$100,000 in lost revenue. These cuts amount to in the neighborhood of one million dollars, or almost one-fifth of the total SFRP reduction. And one of the more depressing rumors floating around is that Hamilton and North Beach Pools will be filled so that basketball courts can be constructed.

There will be one last chance for swimmers and aquatics enthusiasts to express their opinion publicly and possibly exert some influence. The Board of Supervisors Finance Committee will meet Wednesday, June 23, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 228, City Hall. The SFRP Aquatics Division's budget is currently the eighth item on the agenda, which means that discussion on pool closures could take place at

any time from early afternoon on. Whatever the Finance Committee decides will most likely be rubber-stamped by the full Board of Supervisors.

In the meantime, while Hamilton is still open, practices

are at this facility (on Geary at Steiner) on Tuesdays from 7:30-9 p.m., Thursdays from 6:30-8 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m.-noon. Call 431-1933, or come to a practice and check it out! ▼

Pool

Playoffs Get Serious

An overflow field of the SF Pool Association's top women players packed the Cinch June 5, all hoping to shoot their way into the final four at this season's West Coast Challenge Women's Qualifier. When the smoke cleared early that evening, Marquita Booth, a SF police officer, remained undefeated in match play to claim her second WCC Qualifier Crown after a two-season break from league play competition.

Also Challenge bound are Teresa Oliver, Nimmi Solomon, and Monica Lee. It will be the first WCC for Lee, who edged last season's defending champ, Mele DeVictoria, in a 3-2 nail-biter to make the final four.

Playoff Update

Sixteen teams made the playoff cut and faced off on May 25 for the first of two rounds of single-elimination match play. First-round upset victims included No. 7-seeded Marlena's Magic and No.

3-seeded Cinch It Up! Round two was played on June 1, and once again, there were some shocking results. Transferations, a team that barely made the cut at .500 and was seeded No. 14, followed their first-round upset with another by eliminating No. 6-seeded Border Patrol, 9-4. They face No. 2-ranked International Borders next in a best-of-three match series that will produce a finalist team.

Top-ranked Tien Fulishness has been hosting matches at Cafe San Marcos since the closing of Tien Fu. They cruised by Cafe Break and then toppled Transfer Ballbusters, 9-4, to keep their date with the semifinals. No. 5-ranked Cinch Spoilers posted the league's second-best winning average in spite of forfeiting 17 games early in the season. They face the Fulishness next after beating Pilsner Puppies, 9-6, and downing Red Bearons, 9-4.

Call JOE-POOL for match locations and event updates. ▼

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WOMEN

Multi-ethnic GF, 22, 5'7", 160, seeks similar for companionship. Interests: Lit., dance, revolution, erotic indulgence. EXT 6275.

MEN

SEEKING RELATIONSHIPS

Fuckbuddy! rltshp wntd. Me: 46, 5'9", Br/Bl, 31 lkg for GW/ML 30-50 avg bld, prefer cut. into oral, luv to work on tits, balls, and asshole, then settle down to serious bus. HIV neg and safe only. Luv-fuck, suck all afternoon and into eve. EXT 6677.

Wheelchair guy w/ challenged speech soon to be lawyer stockbroker seeks nuturous courageous guy.EXT 6651.

Attr dad, 42, 6', 205, seeks live in smooth hung boy into hard paddles and W/S. Total ownership. No one nighters. EXT 6652.

Chubby 36yo GWM sks GAM chaser for sincere, honest, passionate monogamous relationship. Me: HIVneg, bttm. You Masc, tanned, top. EXT 6655.

Do your buddies usually want you on top because you're hung so nice but really like the bottom better? I'm a 6' sexy 35yo. Bi/Bl top and I really love guys who are heavy hung, like to show it off and like the bottom. EXT 6656.

BARTALK BULLETIN BOARD

IT'S NEW!!!!!!

GAY AND LESBIAN DATE LINE !!!
DIAL 1-900-844-2227 from your touch tone phone. It costs 98 cents per minute. You must be 18 years old. It's simple, just call the BARTALK number and choose the Bulletin Board function. You can browse messages left by others or leave a message for others to hear. GET A DATE!!! HAVE FUN!!!

Intelligent attractive, fun-loving GAM seeks same for friendship, hanging out maybe more. EXT 6521.

18 yo GWM seeks GWM 18 to 30 for rltshp. ND, lite smoke ok. Date first then maybe a LTR. Financially independent a must. EXT 6520.

Hispanic seeking friendship and possible relationship. Blondes a plus. I'm 28, 5'11", 180lbs, looking for similar age and body shape. EXT 6525.

Bad boy, 56 wants serious relationship with daddy over 60 to discipline and love me. I do as I'm told! EXT 6528.

GWM, 34, 5'3", 128, Grey/Brown, Blue, mustache, body hair seeks GWM 30-45 masculine top for friendship, hot sex and possible rltshp. I like to get fucked. Prefer someone hairy and hung. N/S and fun personality. EXT 6539.

Hot, hung, horny, Hispanic; handsome healthy, hairless, humorous, high on hilarity, heart-y, hip. Hunting for hot, hung, happy, humorous, healthy HIV, hip husband for happy honeymooning. EXT 6540.

GWM, 38, I'm hairy, husky, balding with handlebar mustache seeking guy 20-30 with attractive boyish look for possible relationship. EXT 6550.

GWM, 45, 150lbs, educated, financially secure looking for GAM 20-30 for passionate time. Relationship possible. Good sense of humor a plus. EXT 6551.

GWM, 45, 6', 170, prof. smart, quality, witty, kind, outdrls lvr seeks lover/friends GAM, 25-45, N/S, N/D. EXT 6556.

GAM, 28, gdlkg, seeks GWM, 30-45 for relationship. EXT 6557.

Very cute 25yo GWM sks stable, honest, sincere, GW/HAM for friendship possible LTR. No flakes, fems, disease's. serious only please. EXT 6558.

Handsome, lonely 29 yo GWM lkg for gdlkg LM/WM for frndshp/cmpnshp/good sex. No drugs. Smoking/drinking ok. Let's talk. EXT 6559.

GLM seeks GAM/GLM for serious friendship/relationship. EXT 6560.

GWM seeks possible permanent relationship with GWM. You Bi/Bl or Gr/Bl, 5'10"-6", 140-155, HIVneg, domnt/pass, mature, trusting, prvt, then lvr a message. EXT 6561.

Hot looking 21yo college student, 6'2", 220 of rock hard body wants to have fun with hot guys under 34, maybe LTR with right guy. EXT 6562.

Muscular Cauc, 36, seeks ultra smooth lean Asian to date on a regular basis who is monogamous and relationship oriented. EXT 6563.

I'll wear the tie, you wear the constr boots. Attr yng lkg GWM, 32 prof, great hnmkr, cook and sex partner, HIVneg sks a real M for rltshp. Must be well Blt, masc and like to fuck and be worsh. Ser only no trolls, fems or one night stands. EXT 6564.

East Bay GWM, 41, attr, 5'10", 175, moustache, looking for affectionate, romantic man for friendship, relationship. Good sense of humor a plus! EXT 6604.

Mature dad sks naked cock slave for frequent suckoffs on demand. Your place in S.F. Seek LTR. Ser only. EXT 6605.

Muscleman bottom 30's seeks hung, in shape, butch tops for sex. Mushroom head a plus. EXT 6524.

If you enjoy laying on the bed and getting a great blow job then call me and you will get sucked dry. EXT 6526.

FFB, gym bod, 41, 5'11", 165, Br hr w/ 7" sks FFT any age or race. EXT 6527.

49 yo GWM, 9'cock wants 2 hot white bottoms for hot 3 way. Love to fuck your hot holes. EXT 6529.

GAM, hndsm, sweet with a nice trim body. 28yo, 5'10", 152lbs sks sim GWM for body/soul connections. EXT 6530.

Young Asian fuckbuddy sought by 34yo GWM, 6'2", 230lbs, goodlooking coach/teacher. Top sks bttm. EXT 6531.

Any new longhairs wnt to exch cock sucking w/ an original? Fun, enthusiasm, playful are pluses. EXT 6532.

South/East Bay sexbuddy is neat, ctn shav, HIVneg. M to join for oral safe fun and mutual play. Me BWM, older, bald, caring, 5'10", 160, HIVneg. EXT 6552.

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Psychic? Paranormal experience? Esoteric, exotic, spiritual pursuit? Me too: Let's talk. Blessed be. EXT 6553.

No. Bay GWM, HIVneg, 40, 54, 190 sks FN qt eves, cuddling, enjoys ocean and nature 18yo and up apply. NS, me: Dk, ger, hry chest, hon and sin. EXT 6554.

Musc. 35, stable, sincere seeks musc guy with huge nipples that protrude to date on a reg basis. Pls only serious replies. EXT 6555.

25yo GLM, wants to service Asians age unimportant. I am very oral and eager to please. EXT 6565.

GWM 39, 6'1", 200, straight type and not into gay life. Seeks similar without an attitude and beautiful inside. EXT 6566.

Daytime tryst. 25yo cute GM Blond/Blue, smooth, erotic seeking any age well built guys for midday fun. EXT 6567.

Bi MWM 26 and wife looking for Bi WM to please both of us. Attractive, straight acting a plus. Our first time. EXT 6568.

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Untested bttm needs pos. caring teacher. I'm 32, 205, 6', goodlooking, HIVneg. Hurry I'm on fire!!! So. Bay. EXT 6569.

Palo Alto GAM, husky, 210, smooth body seeks hairy body to violate my two cavities that need a filling. EXT 6570.

Young 22 looking for older men to suck my young cock maybe more. I'm goodlooking Br/Gr. EXT 6571.

Foreskin fanatic, 46, 5'10", 155 wants lg UC to spend long tongue, suck and worship sess. You lay back. EXT 6572.

Boy next door, 27, 5'10" fit seeks hot muscular, tall, hung top, HIVneg. 25-35. Aching for wet/loud, rough sex and tenderness. EXT 6573.

BM top sought by WM 42yo, HIVneg. East Bay. I want to svc your black cock. Oral and with horny ass. EXT 6574.

Me: GWM, 36, heavy, horny bottom. You: Masc top, tan, horny Asian, Latin, Indian or Arab. My mouth and ass are yours. Use me. EXT 6575.

Hip, fit and tight 26yo boy looking for hot and older man to finger and tongue my hard ass. Must be fit!!! EXT 6576.

Hey Black guys- WGM sucks long black dicks. Prefer 20-40yo. Light or dark. I kneel down to please. EXT 6577.

Frndshp sought with thin smth guy, 25-35yo for movies, arts. I'm GWM 40's, 6'2", slender, ctn cut, quiet. EXT 6542.

I wnt you to sit on my face so I can tongue fuck your big hry bubble butt. You: well built, WM, 20-30, hry. Me: Hot, hung big, well blt, hungry tongue. EXT 6545.

I 40's, HIVneg, Br/Br, 210, want to meet 25-40 who can look/be yng. Likes doing things together and for eachother. finish the day in eachothers arm's. EXT 6546.

Hot handsome, healthy, hungry, 34yo blonde btm needs gdlkg, in shape, healthy, well hung stud, 23-37 for mutual pleasure. EXT 6547.

Are you a do as you're told: cock/body slave; dad's boy; little bro; eager to please; vry oral and vry horny; hot to trot masc type? Wknd parties w/my other 'boys'. I'm 43, 6', 165. EXT 6548.

Very athletic legs for blks w/ stamina or talented cocksucker of any race. EXT 6549.

GWM, 38, hairy, husky, balding with a handlebar mustache seeks guy 20-30 with attractive boyish looks. EXT 6582.

GBM, 6ft, 220, 43yo, musc, HIVneg, 8', hairy seeks Australian, Latino bottom. Nonsmokers. EXT 6583.

Cocksucker needs practice. 24, Asian, smooth sks ctn shvn yng m only. Size not important. Blondes a plus. EXT 6584.

Tall, handsome, buffed men wanted by E. Bay guy in tight leotards. You: Macho. Me: submissive, spread me! EXT 6585.

Incredibly heavy hung thick hard horse cock with tall handsome build, 32yo attached. EXT 6587.

Hairy ass Arab available for training, stretching. Dildos toys and handsome men with sling preferable. EXT 6588.

Gdlkg GWM, 45yo sks gdlkg/hnds GWM any ys old, into fun! Frndshp! Maybe even rom. Are you new in S.F.? I can be your escort and show you everything- everywhere. Call me. EXT 6589.

3 way, Blk, BB, short, stocky wanted by generous couple mid 30 and 40. Ctn cut, handsome. EXT 6590.

Cut WM skin lover seeks intact guys. Uncut cocks really turn me on. Show me yours. Your place only. EXT 6591.

Mexican, 5'4", 135lbs, 36yo, bttm, very horny lkg for GWM top for fun. EXT 6592.

Ruggedly handsome bottom looking for hot, healthy, hung top. EXT 6593.

Hot WM, gym bod, hung big, has hungry tongue for well blt, beefy WM with a tight, aggressive bubble butt. EXT 6594.

Hung 8-9' Latin master, 55, 5'11", 180, married, HIVneg, no drugs sks vry sub c/s, tit play, spank's, B/D. San Jose area. Your place. Frds, hip a plus. EXT 6595.

Financial Dist prof for mutual great kisses, nipple play, oral affection, GWM, 5'9", 158lbs, Nordic, HIVpos, smkr, 40's for mentally mature men over 28yo. Videos, sunny yard. Call EXT 6596.

Very attr, shamelessly rich and a body to die for. If you fit this description, Don't reply to this ad. Others welcome. EXT 6598.

Gdlkg GWM, 38, masc, 5'7", vgd swim bld, 8' cut, top seeks gdlkg GWM 30-40, ht/wt propor or a bit stockier, vgd bld, hry a plus, ex hyg, hung, cut, wide(shaved?) hole, to be rimmed, spanked, sucked, fucked hard. At times you crave 3 ways, Gbangs, me under your ass licking the cocks fucking you. EXT 6599.

Hot titl cmfreak and asseater sks heavy loaded, horny men for reg sessions. Serious. Call for description. EXT 6600.

Very sexy potential bad boy desires police, firemen, guards and studs in uniform to make me worship/service head to toe. Me: Blonde, 5'9", 140, HIVneg, cop shield, tattoos, handlebar moustache, flatfoot, bottom to top, very versatile and kinky. EXT 6602.

AD OF THE WEEK

Pro wrestling villian into boots, trunks, masks, wants brutal punishing no-holds barred matfight opponents as tough and mean as I am! EXT 6694.

1-900-844-2227 - .98¢ PER MINUTE - MUST BE AT LEAST 18

Attr GBM, HIVneg, 40's, lives and owns buss in Pacifica sks GWM, HIVneg, 48-65 with a thick 7" to 10" dick that love it sucked for hours. ex-patron of Jack's a plus. EXT 6578.

Wntd: Hot butt lickr, WM, 37yo, beefy/ musc sks beefy masc/musc guy to tongue fuck my bubble butt. EXT 6579.

Love to eat yng cuties cavernous bubble butts and unshaven cracks, under 30. 28, musc, long dick/tongue. EXT 6580.

South San Francisco world like to meet SF cocksuckers any race /age. Let's turn a bar into a gay bar. EXT 6581.

Oakland late nite jerk off, dirty talk, ritual c/b worship. One on one lengthy encnters. M bonding, phallic worship, j/o obscenity. EXT 6603.

Stocky Blk fucker dad sks BB/husky btm. I'm 36yo. I suck your nipples, you suck my dick. I fuck you. Art model needed too. EXT 6610.

Asian/Latin guys wntd for BJ's. My place you be 23-35. In shape. I'm 30, 5'9", slim build. Let me sck you dry. EXT 6611.

I need a young stud to cram his cock up in my ass. If you are 19 to 23yo. I am a good fuck.EXT 6612.

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 18

Paved Paradise

John Kelly's whimsical yet devoted musical drag tribute to Joni Mitchell. \$10-12. 8pm, also 10pm Fri. & Sat. Thru 7/4. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Deepest Sympathy

Bindlestiff Production's new black comedy by Reed Kirk Rahlman. \$7. 8pm. Thru 6/26. Bindlestiff Theatre, 185 6th St. at Howard. 974-1167.

Jungle Red

Mostly drag musical version of *The Women*. \$13-15. 8pm. Sun. 2:30pm. Thru 7/18. Artful Circle Theatre, 47 Waller. 626-KILL.

Hypothalamic In/Queerlies & Tit for Tat

Photographic exhibit and installations about brainy lesbian and gay lives and bodies. Opening reception 6-9pm. Thru 7/17. SF Camerawork, 70 12th St. 621-1001.

Ethnic Dance Festival

15th anniversary blow-out of hoofing from around the globe. \$10-26. 8pm (Sun. at 2pm). Weekends thru 6/26. Palace of Fine Arts, Bay & Lyon. 392-4400.

Blood Orgy of the Leather Girls

Rare video of a film by Meredith Lucas; a gross, intellectual, exploitative, violent (wo)manifesto of deviance. Freaky. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Not Without My Nipples!

Comedy musical hostage drama about a made-for-TV movie, a salad, and a boob job, with Melanie Hutsell of *Saturday Night Live*. \$10-15. 8pm. Sat. at 7 & 9:30pm. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. 863-7576.

Cinderella, A Tale of Survival

Dance Brigade's modern adaptation of the classic tale, with live new score by Ferron. \$10-17. 8pm. Thru 6/20. Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon at 9th, Oakland. (510) 465-3686.

The Exorcist: Dance Macabre

Horror comedy with modern dance and swill. \$10. 9pm. Also Sats. thru 7/3. Bernice St. Playhouse, 21 Bernice St. 863-5946.

Hayes Valley Block Party

Summer solstice open house at stores, shops and restaurants along 300-500 Hayes St. 7-10pm. 255-9307.

SATURDAY 19

Hello Dolly

Lamplighters Music Theatre performs Broadway's biggest musical. \$24. 8pm. Sun. 2pm. Thru 8/1. Presentation Theatre, 2350 Turk at Masonic. 752-7755.

Like Dog and Dog

Compelling drama about the small Spanish town officials who arrested and killed gay poet Federico Garcia Lorca. Thru 6/26. \$6-10. Eighth Street Studio, 2525 8th St. (& Dwight), Berkeley. (510) 549-9446.

Comedy Fling

Marilyn Pittman and Amy Boyd. \$6-8. 9pm. Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Blvd. (510) 878-7376.

Gay Comedy Night

Homos humor with Marilyn Pittman, Scott Silverman & Sabrina Matthews. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

The Substance of Fire

Jon Robin Baitz' acclaimed drama about a Holocaust survivor faced with forsaking his moral standards to survive. \$12-21. 8:30pm. Sun. at 2 & 7:30pm. Thru 7/11. Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

The Moon

Second installment of Henry Steele's mythical drama, this time about Ariadne's appearance on the human plane as Salome's mom. \$7-12. 8pm. Thru June. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 641-0235.

Damnation

What is hell? Find out in diverse video works *The Thrill*, *7 Levels of Heaven*, *Exemplary Behavior*, *At Home*, *Pogo*, and *Trip to the Underworld*. \$3-5. 7:30 & 9:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

LezDance

Alcohol/smoke-free Women's Dance Party. \$5-10. 9pm-1am. Sebastopol Comm. Center, 390 Morris St. (off Hwy 12). (707) 829-0797.

Ventanas Magicas

Mixed media serigraph prints. Thru 7/4. La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. 620-0290.



"Homoteens" from the Film Fest's short collection *Real Girls & Boys*

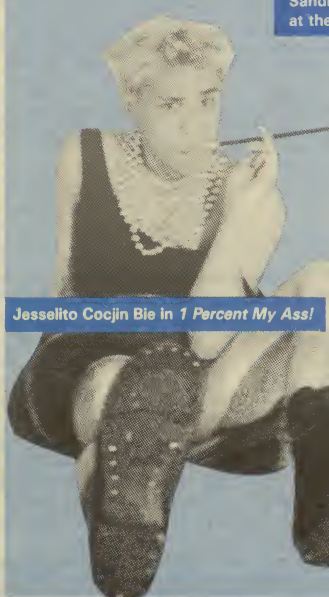


While poking fun at athletics, the performers in *Onsite Dance Company* (above) go through a rather athletic workout in the transform Theatre Artaud, turning a usually passive audience into participants. A decidedly spirited dance event, this is one not to miss. *Arena* runs June 18-20, 8:30pm. \$12.50. Theatre Artaud, 450 Flo St. 621-7797.

Don't you hate those *Be All That You Can Be* commercials, especially today's exclusionary context? Hear the inside view at a panel with same name. Jose Zuniga (1992 Soldier of the Year, recently ousted his gay coming-out) and Sarah Davis (WWII Aviation Machinist) will discuss about the effect of the military ban on lesbians and gays. Get a personal story to inspire you to fight the Col. Pecks of this country. June 24 9pm, Toland Hall, 533 Parnassus Ave. Free. 476-5222.

Class Acts: Join the Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers in Summer Showcase Program, which includes new music for clarinet, piano by Otokonomu, voice, piano and chorus works by Charles B. Robert Nofsinger, and Matthew McQueen. Performers include K. Noyes and SF's Golden Gate Men's Chorus. Sunday, June 20, 8pm. Community Music Center, 544 Capp St. btwn. 20th & 21st. 333-2755.

Sandra Confesses at the Film Festival



Jesselito Cocjin Ble in 1 Percent My Ass!

Safety in numbers? Not always. The Festival Opening night's so out, so go see how stuff live at 1 Percent My Ass! A Queer performance grab bag, with Stephen Pelton Dance, Jesselito Cocjin Bl, Katia Noyes, Justin Chir, Arturo Fernandez, High Risk Group, and Paul Anel. This juicy sampler talent transpires June 24 & 25, 5-11:30pm. 84 Community Space, 848 Divisadero. 775-4600.

ELLEN

DEGENERES



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It's "hilarious" - KGO Radio
It's "zany" - Dramalogue
It's an "outrageous howler of a gay comedy" - Bay Times

It's Christopher Durang's

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SUNDAY 20

Webberama
Klubstitute's endless tribute to Andrew Lloyd, with all the usual suspects (Justin Bond, Leigh Crow, Connie Champagne, Flynn, Deena Davenport, Miss X, etc...) belting show tunes. Fortunately, (unlike Sound-Feimania) there will be space for dancing, lounging, and escape. Benefits LarKin St. Youth Center HIV Services and Playstute. \$5-10. 9pm. 1015 Folsom. 826-5358.

Laurie Amat
Chanteuse extraordinaire, with J. Raoul Brody & David Sampson. Also Bob Davis & Juan the Snake Dancer. \$2. 8:30pm. Cabaret Du Nord, 2170 Market St. 861-5016.



Drag Strip
Elvis Herselvis, strippers, lesbo lap dancers, drag kings. MC Mimi Freed. \$5. \$1 off for good drag. Paula's Clubhouse, 3160 16th.

G.A.W.K.
Gay Artists & Writers Collective, with Jon Sugar and Jack Spittle (of Helo's Revolt). Free, 3pm. Fruitopia, 1515 Polk. 731-2424.

Q Art
Group exhibit of gay and lesbian visual artists Kirk Stoller, Timothy Taylor, Fernando Reyes, Takashi Ishu and others. Also, "Crossing the Line," an exhibition of gender transgression art by Steven Baratz, Alicia Brite & 10 others. Thru 7/17. ARU Gallery, 736 14th St. 621-1551.

Dave Kinnick, Brad Gooch
Kinnick talks about his book *Sorry I Asked* (interviews with porn stars. 3:30pm). Gooch reads from *City Poet* (his biography of gay poet Frank O'Hara. 7:30pm). Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

MONDAY 21

Arturo Galster
Performing as Chesty Baker (Chet's sister), this popular drag star croons tunes every Monday thru June. \$2. 9pm-ish. Cabaret Du Nord, 2170 Market St. 861-5016.

Gay Comedy Open Mike
MC Mark Davis. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

TUESDAY 22

Whatever Happened
Between Bette and Joan? Drag comedy about what may have happened between rehearsals of the screen's two queen divas, starring Tif Rice & Michael-Colin Reed. \$15. 8pm. Also Sat. at 11pm. Thru 7/18. Artful Circle Theatre, 47 Waller. 626-7403.

Did You Come or Fake It?
Motherfucker Feminist Theater Collective performs their popular sex script. \$8-15. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Bruce de L.A.
Frederic Ohlinger. Physique nudes, florals and still lifes by two photographic masters. Thru 7/10. Scott Nichols Gallery, 49 Geary, 4th fl. 788-8438.

Torsos: A New Body of Art
Works by LA artist Justus, aka Joseph Michael Litzinger. Thru 7/31. The Lone Star, 1354 Harrison, and Cocktails, 201 9th St.

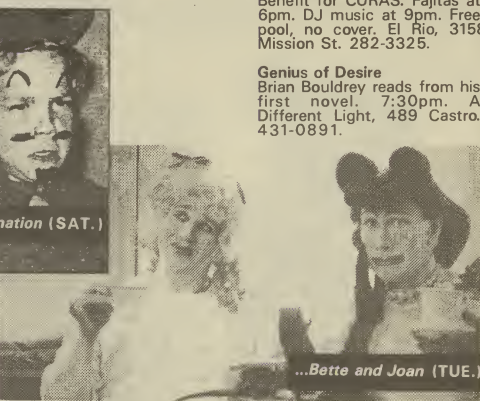
Jerome Caja
Intimate erotic paintings. Thru June. Stud Bar, 9th & Harrison. 863-6623.

WEDNESDAY 23

C.W.A. (Cunts With Attitude)
Olympia, WA's premiere Riot Grrl band, thrashes Faster Pussycat. \$5-7. 10pm-ish. The Clubhouse, 3160 16th St. 561-9771.

Gravity
Pansy Division, Malibu Barbie Rockin' triple bill of homo friendly music. MCs Betty & Pansy. \$5. 9pm. The Kennel Club, 628 Divisadero. 931-1914.

Olympia II: Festival of Beauty
Leni Riefenstahl's Nazi-commissioned film pageant of Aryan physical culture. \$3-5. 8:30pm. ATA, 992 Valencia at 21st. 566-1861.



Mad Monks on the Road
Jim Crotty & Michael Lane, the queers behind *Monk*, that wacky RV travel mag, shamelessly self-promote their new book about their 47,000 hour dashboard adventure across America. 7:30pm. Free. The Booksmith, 1644 Haight. 863-8688.

Queerwork
Readings by Kevin Killian, Aaron Shurin and Mary Wings. \$4. 7:30pm. Also art exhibition by Cecilia Dougherty & Leslie Singer (thru June). Women's Art Project, 3543 18th St.

Foreman Brown
Author of 1930's *Better Angel* will be featured at a reception following a screening of *Turnabout*, Dan Bessie's documentary about the writer. 7pm. Free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Stephen Savage
New work by the community's best known male nude photographer and his assistant, David Meanix. Thru 6/30. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Queer Mysteries
David Cannon Dashiell's exhibit of art placing the Dionysian initiation ritual in a gay and lesbian context. Thru 7/3. SF Art Institute, Walter McBean Gallery, 800 Chestnut. 771-7020.

Life After the March; Count Unwaged Work
Public meeting sponsored by Wages Due Lesbians. \$5. June 24, 7:30pm. New College, 766 Valencia. 626-4114.

Maximizing HIV Treatment Strategies
Discussion of therapies, from AZT to bitter melon. June 22, MCC, 150 Eureka. 626-4053.

Team San Francisco
General Membership meeting to decide on team jacket design, the Freedom Day parade and other issues about Gay Games. June 19, 3pm. Eureka Valley Community Center. 621-2213.

Free Self Defense Classes
SF Street Patrol instructs gays & lesbians every Sunday, 3-4pm, Collingwood Park, 18th & Eureka. 985-7423.

AIDS Community Forum
Discussion of research and treatment findings from the Berlin International AIDS Conference. June 23, 7:30pm, Davies Medical Center Auditorium, Castro at Duboce. 800-444-1338.

Fifth International Conference on Social Work and AIDS
Panels with speakers David Leavitt, Terry Tafaya, and others. June 23-26. Sir Francis Drake Hotel. 647-8842.

Lesbians With Age Related Eyesight Loss Resources
Issues and self-help strategies. National Association for Visually Handicapped. 221-3201.

THURSDAY 24

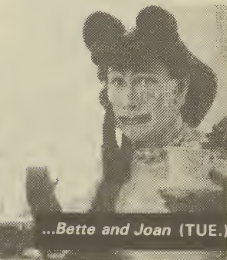
Dyke March Benefit
Mimi Freed, Sabrina Matthews, plus steamy safe sex demos. \$3-10. 8pm-midnight. The Cafe, 2367 Market.

Tripmaster Funky
Dance party to benefit GAPA, Asian Pacific Sisters, Shamakami and Trikone. \$7-20. 9pm. The Endup, 6th & Harrison. 543-7700.

Wild Girl Sex Party
Club Cream's naughty arena of dyke fun, with treats, safe sex items and juice bar. \$15. Doors open 7pm-midnight, open til 3am. 703-7160.

Pre-Gay Day Fajita Party
Benefit for CURAS. Fajitas at 6pm. DJ music at 9pm. Free pool, no cover. El Rio, 3158 Mission St. 282-3325.

Genius of Desire
Brian Bouldrey reads from his first novel. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.



Queerly Defined
Group exhibit of gay & lesbian photography exploring the varied aspects of the queer body. Thru 7/8. Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission St. 431-6911.

Frank Pietronigro
Figurative paintings of gay and lesbian in an Americana context. Thru June. State of the Art Gallery, 524 Hayes. 255-7264.

March on Washington
Photos by Steve Thompson. Thru 7/6. Castro Country Club, 4058 18th. 552-6102.

Visual Artists Salon
Lesbian, gay, bi pride expressed in art. Thru July. Bearded Lady Cafe & Gallery, 484 14th. 626-2805.

Wasting Architecture
Durham Crout and other artists' collaborative installation exploring connections between homophobia, HIV and buildings. Lec/dem, 7pm. Exhibit thru June. Cal. College of Arts & Crafts, Main Gallery, 1700 17th St.. 495-2445.

Coconut
Adele Prandini's musical fable of ecological concerns and gay tourists and detectives. \$10-17. 8pm. Thru 6/26. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. 861-5079.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Pan-Roasted Medallions of Pork Loin with port wine, apple-raisin dressing, apricot chutney and mashed potatoes 9.75

Penne Pasta Puttanesco with tuna, capers & tomatoes 9.75

Chicken Carbonara with fettucini, garlic, bacon & creamy asiago . 10.25

Chicken Cordon Bleu stuffed with spinach, mushrooms & feta cheese, served with green onion rice ... 10.50

Grilled 8-oz. N.Y. Pepper Steak with brandy sauce, roasted vegetable & fried onion rings 11.95



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QUEEN
ANGELS

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Music by Jon Cohen

WED-SUN,
JUNE 11-JULY 3

Wed-Sat at 8 PM • Sun at 7 PM

Matinees: 5 PM Sat & 3 PM Sun

Previews: Wed & Thu, June 9 & 10

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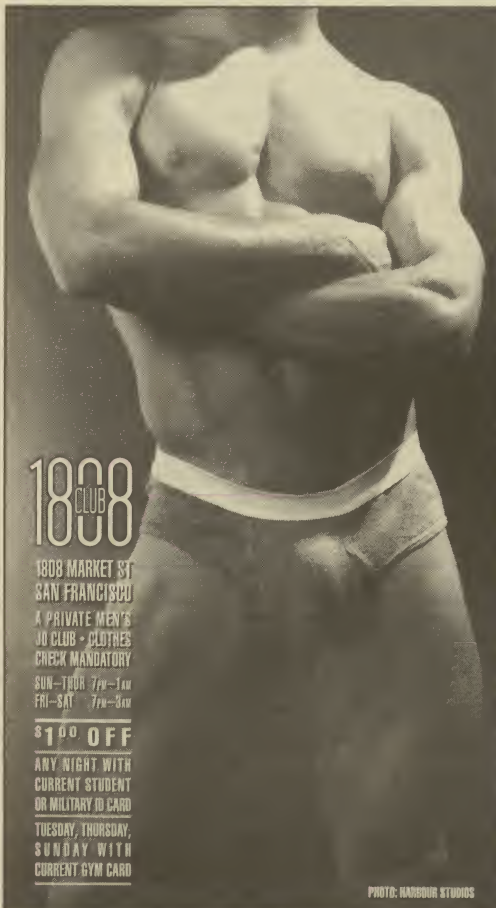


PHOTO: HARBOUR STUDIOS

BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

Mr. Marcus

June - The Month of Celebration



Don Thompson displays the all-leather teddy bear that will be one of the major auction items at the Father's Day beer/soda bust at The Eagle Sunday, June 20. Donated and created by Leather World of Melbourne, Australia.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Heading into the big-
gie in just 10 more
days. Gay and les-
bian pride on pa-
rade in one of the biggest
gatherings in the country. A
lot of people are sitting this
one out because they don't
like the theme this year: Year
of the Queer. Others are
heading south for the Los An-
geles celebration. But the ma-
jority will either participate in
or watch the groups march in
pride and celebration.

Before the parade and af-
terward, hundreds of activi-
ties are scheduled to cater to
the whims of our community.
For leather folk, there is
enough to keep you busy the

entire weekend, and here are
a just a few of them.

After this coming week-
end, rest is mandatory be-
cause most of the action starts
at midweek. Tourists from all
over the country will be pour-
ing in, and hedonism is the
order of the day. The Leather
Buddies are having their sec-
ond get/come-together on
Wednesday night, June 23,
with the doors open between
2000-2400 at 933 Harrison.
This one's a benefit so they
can continue giving free HIV
testing monthly, so have fun
and support a worthy cause.
Call 979-0242 for details.

If you're in Los Angeles on
Thursday, June 24, you might

want to drop in at Griff's
(4216 Melrose at Vermont) for
the International Mr. Deaf
Leather contest hosted by the
LA Leather Association of
the Deaf. Tickets are only \$7
with the doors opening at
2000; the competition begins
at 2130. International Mr.
Deaf Leather 1992 Philip Ru-
bin will be the emcee.

Women on the prowl can
get immersed in a women-
only, safe-sex play party at
Club Eros by Sluts for Sensa-
tion and Club Cream. The
doors open at 2000, and they
close at midnight. \$15. No
drugs or alcohol. Part of the
proceeds are for Pat Califia's
new magazine *Venus Inferis*,
and if you need more info,
call 703-7160.

On Friday, June 25, the
Hot Ash West Club (cigar
smokers) will have its month-
ly party at the Lone Star Sa-
loon, so you might want to
catch the stogie smokers from
out of town in action. Cigars
for sale are available on the
premises if you forget your
stash.

Up on Haight Street, Rita
Rockett and Mark Abramson
are celebrating their birth-
days at Trax in loving memo-
ry of Al Parker, who was al-
ways a part of this celebra-
tion. Gail Wilson will perform
and so will the fabulous Vel-
cros. The fete benefits Rita's
Ward 5-A Sunday brunches,
and the door prizes include a
13-inch color TV, VCR and a
CD player. The fun begins at
2100.

Saturday, June 26, the
town will be frantic. The
spiffiest event going on is the
Phoenix Uniform Club's 16th
Anniversary Party and the
Uniform and Leather Ball in
the Green Room at the War
Memorial Building from 1900-
2300. The tickets, \$25 in ad-
vance or \$35 at the door and
available at both Mister S
Leather locations and at
Leather Masters in San Jose,
entitle you to a hosted bar,
buffet dinner, and Gail Wil-
(Continued on next page)



Paul Galia holds up a chocolate pie with body parts made by Leather Daddy Irwin for the Stop AIDS Project auction on Sun-
day, June 6 at the Eagle beer bust.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Mr. Marcus



Bearrage, the sensational vocal group from the bear community wowed them at the Lone Star beer/soda bust on Saturday, June 12 for the Shades Project. They will perform at the Lennon Studio on Saturday, June 19.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

(Continued from previous page)

son and City Swing. Half the proceeds go to the AIDS Emergency Fund.

If you feel a little earthy, head down to the Watering Hole, where Richard Faust will be hosting a Furry Buns Contest with a beer/soda bust, cash prizes and a 50/50 raffle for the Godfather Service Fund. People are frantic to be judges for this one!

If you just happen to be in New York tonight, they're having the Mr. Northeast Drummer contest at the Prism Gallery (325 West 37th St.) for just \$15. Call (212) 714-2582 if you need more info.

Sunday, June 27, both here and in Los Angeles, thousands will march in community pride with parties galore all over the place afterward. Wherever you go, whatever you do, play safe, hug a stranger, and help out wher-



Jimmy Lee Murray departed from his usual leathery persona to do a Diana Ross stint at the GSL's Variety Show last Saturday night, June 12.
(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

ever you can. And stay prideful!

★ ★ ★

With magnificent weather most of last week, everyone was out enjoying the sun and people watching. The bear community is prideful about Bearrage, a hot quartet of musicians (David Gallego, Chris Arrevalo, Tony Alexander and Sean Mahoney) who entertained to tremendous applause at the Lone Star last Saturday afternoon for the Shades Project beer/soda bust, with the delightful Terry Foster warbling her heart out, too.

Tucker Finn, Richard Caron, Willie Watson and Jess Johnston are making this year's project a biggie, and a nice crowd was on hand for the event. Their big party is this Saturday night, June 19, at the Lennon Studio (271

(Continued on next page)

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JUNE 26

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Mr. Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

Dore Alley), beginning at 2000 with a suggested donation of \$5. The shades themselves will be on display at the Lone Star, Cocktails, Polk Gulch, Edge, Borderline, York Cafe and the Watering Hole, so get your bids in early as they go on display this week. Call (415) 861-1354 for details or if you need a shade for your art work.

Saturday night, the Gay Softball League had their variety show at the California Club with a big crowd to see the almost dozen acts — and they were all great. The seven or so teams (out of over two dozen) who participated gave the crowd their money's worth with imaginative, unique and outrageous acts. It must have been very difficult for the judges. Nevertheless,

the Hillary Rodham Clinton group won the grand prize.

Sunday afternoon, June 13, the Deaf Society's slave auction at the Eagle had an overflow crowd; Lenny Broberg and Daddy Irwin Kane auctioned off some young men and other items that garnered some \$1500 for the Deaf AIDS Chapter. Good show, fun afternoon with lots of skin showing.

Delta, Iota, Sigma, Heta

After spending hundreds of hours on a video tape in response to the Christian fundamentalists' hate video, the High Tech Gays were not at all amused when the high priestess of the local chapter of GLAAD informed them that it was not acceptable and put the kibosh on the project, including all the actors, narrators, writers and editors of the tape! Taping was to start this week.

Another case of the right hand not knowing what the left hand is doing, and volunteers vowing, never again. The saddest thing about this whole affair is that we need the tape now, not when the GLAAD bureaucracy gets its act together.

Well, here we are at the GSL variety show, and here is the former leathery Jimmy Lee Murray looking amazingly like Diana Ross in full drag for the Phone Booth's team. I know people in high places in Chicago, Los Angeles and locally who will pay good money for photos of this one! Hello, Papa Dombkowski? Hello?

The Borderline near the corner of 8th and Folsom is changing its name to Boxers under the guidance of Rey, and it looks like that's where the Mr. San Francisco Bear contest will be held on Saturday, July 31. The Lurch will emcee, so this will be hot!

The current Mr. SF Bear, Paul Mastroianni, says all is in readiness with lots of support in the community, and that's great news, so stay tuned!

Affairs to Remember

Thursday, June 17: Looking for Mr. November '94 on the bare chest calendar at the Eagle tonight at 2200. Win \$100. Show your chest.

Spanking party in celebration of Queen Cougar's birthday tonight beginning at 2000. It's a benefit, but no one seems to know for sure just who it's for.

Friday, June 18: Mark DeCicco's memorabilia frenzy, "It's a Queer World After All," opens in the window of A Different Light on Castro, featuring posters, buttons, and other memorabilia of past pride parades. Check it out.

Saturday, June 19: Gay pride celebration in Sacramento today and tonight, their first Dyke Daddy contest at the Wreck Room by the Sacramento Leather Association.

If you're in Dallas, it's the Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer competition in that city.

Kickoff bash for the Shades

Project at Lennon Studio tonight at 2000. Support this effort which benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund. Check out Bearage — you'll love this group!

NLA San Diego, a chapter that is really on the ball, hosts Daddy's Night Out at Wolf's tonight from 2000 to 0100. This group is a model NLA chapter and is really together.

Sunday, June 20: In San Jose, benefit for Connie Boy's new film, *Mirel*, at Greg's Ballroom at 1500.

Ninth Annual Father's Day leather auction at the Eagle by Don Thompson, featuring a full-leather teddy bear donated by Laurie Lane of Melbourne's Leather World with a lot of other great leather items, beer, soda, etc. — only \$8, including food.

Ms. Watering Hole Kelly Burlingham celebrates her 30th birthday today from 1500 on with a beer/soda bust, surprises, raffles. ▼

Club Mud members up in Rio Nido are overjoyed to know that the new International Mr. Leather, Henri Ten Have, is not only a leather man, but he's also into mud, grease and other esoteric substances. Club Mud is making Henri an honorary member and can't wait to meet him and invite him to their digs!

Incidentally, Club Mud will stage their annual party on Saturday, July 17, up there, with the usual suspects engaging in mud wrestling, tug of war, auto tire scrambling and greased human pig wrestling. All for only \$25 and that includes hot showers and a barbecue. Contact them at (707) 869-0546. ▼

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Tues June 22 7:30-10 pm \$15.
How to Get What You Want at a Sex Party,
with Robin Sweeney & Pat Califia.
Tantra Sex Play for Men
with Daniel Raymond & Scott Eaton

Every Wed. 7:30-10 pm \$20
Men Touching. Explore heart/cock energy with John Sabel
Every Sunday afternoon
Men Pleasuring Men
A nude erotic massage workshop
John or Matthew 2 - 5 pm. \$20



The Hillary Clinton group won the grand prize at the GSL's Variety Show last Saturday night, June 12, at the California Club. They say "Hillary" here is a real cute boy, too.

(Photo: Mr. Marcus)

Sweet Lips

The Glory That Was Gilmore's

Peggy and Charlotte and the staff of Gilmore's — Paul, Corey, Jaz, and Sweet Lips — invite you to party on June 19, noon-6 p.m., with all well drinks, beer, and wine only \$1. This is a thank you to all of our customers through the years as Gilmore's has been sold and the new owner will take over shortly but with no changes. Please join in the festivities.

On June 27, Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day, the Fabulous Velcros will be playing at the Cinch Saloon at 4 p.m., right after the parade. Come and enjoy the fun — they're hot. Right, Larry?

Thank you for the "crown," Mei Ling. I hope your New York trip was "fruitful," as we all missed your smiling face.

Empress I Jose and Ms. Beverly Plaza are together again — this time at Finocchio's. Show times are 8:30 p.m., 10 p.m., and 11:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Three shows a night at your age, Jose!

Seth, Greta, and that sexy,

hairy Johnny (monogamous like hell) have a new mate on the plank at Company. J.R., who formerly served you at the Yacht Club, the QT, Kimo's, and the Cinch, will now parade his stuff every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoon, 1-8 p.m. This Midwest talent (and still a looker), who now has his college degree, would love to see all his friends. Stop in and see the "studs" on the weekend and the "gentlemen" during the week. It's your own fault, Ms. Helmsly.

Sunday brunch at Charpe's, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., has the wonderful Mr. Craig Daley as your waiter and, of course, the charming and vivacious Mr. Paul Ruehl at the bar, with all vodka drinks only \$1. Get there early and stay late.

Michael Greer and Nicholas Glover, and Wray will be at Ziggurat in Guerneville on June 18 at 8 p.m. in what promises to be a sensational show. For tickets call (707) 869-3122 and ask for Rose Marie White. This same

lineup will be in Santa Rosa June 19 for their Gay Pride Day.

The Round Up — the finale, show, the selection of the New Cowboy and Cowgirl, and the drawing for raffle prizes — will be held at 4 p.m. on June 20 at the Rawhide.

Chef "No Count" offers some fantastic dinners at very reasonable prices at the Church Street Station, so give them a try. And I do know why he's called "No Count." Hi, Bill.

Ginger's Trois is the fun bar in the Financial District with great piano entertainment.

Thank you, David Webb, for the ride home the other evening after so many cocktails at The Giraffe. I can't wait to be the first one on the dance floor once it's finished. Maybe Stern will give me a towel.

Here's wishing all of you a Happy Father's Day and a happy birthday to Luigi on June 22 — you look younger than ever. ▼

Uncompromising Realism

by Jim Coughenour

Prince in Hell is a grim fairy tale of finger puppets, frantic fucking, and junkies in the throes of addiction. Picture the urban landscape of *Wings of Desire* inhabited by queer rejects from *Drugstore Cowboy* and you'll have some idea how director Michael Stock has managed to make a film which is by turns erotic, romantic, meta-physically ponderous, and indubitably loathsome.

When it comes to constructing an allegory, German artists have never been celebrated for their light touch. Michael Stock is no exception. *Prince in Hell* uses a trio of itinerant beggars to expose the dream of a unified Germany as a burgeoning nightmare. The bleak lessons of disillusion, intolerance, and disintegration are hammered home with unrelenting didacticism. Not only do we have to watch the three handsome stars progress from desperate to worse to death, but we must also endure a dismal puppet show in which this same story is retold in the idiom of a fairy tale — just in case we missed the point the first time around.

The film focuses on a group of Berlin trailer-camp inhabitants. Three of them are off and on again queer lovers; there is also a bitchy wife of one of the men, their child, and a fool/jester puppeteer to comment on the action. None of them has any visible means of support; they're the detritus of a civilization in decay, fucking and fighting and scoring drugs. One of the queers struggles throughout the film to keep the other two off heroin. He loses.

As a rule I despise junkie films, which tend to be humorless, one-note productions. Nevertheless, *Prince in Hell* displays a disturbing vitality that sets it apart from



Prince in Hell — as dark as they come

other gay films. The three main actors — Stefan Laarmann, Wolfram Haack, and director Michael Stock — transcend their roles, inhabiting and extending their characters rather than "playing" them, pulling us toward them even as they repulse our affections.

From its almost charming opening sequence (Stock and Laarmann hungrily kissing on a bridge over a filthy river), the film insists on an uncompromising, realistic quality that makes its kindred films look timid and arty. The truly

disgusting scene which concludes the film is of a piece with the rest. In a perverse way it guarantees the film's integrity by refusing to allow us to forget its message. *Prince in Hell* is powerful shit. ▼

Prince in Hell
Towne Theatre (San Jose):
June 20, 9 p.m.
Castro Theatre: June 23, 9:15
p.m. and June 24, 2:30 p.m.
Rating: ★★



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Book Brief

No Wonder Dyke

The Year Seven
by Molleen Zanger; Naiad, \$9.95

A writer needs a certain raw courage, and extraordinary narrative skill, to build a novel, using first person narration, no less, around an exceedingly unlikable protagonist. In the case of *The Year Seven*, Molleen Zanger gives her reader neither courage nor skill.

The narrator, a dyke named Vic, decides to set down the history of her world since the awful morning at seven, years ago, when the power went out and almost everyone died. Vic, and the morose band of friends and followers she finds in her journey, never learn what caused the holocaust, why people either died (mostly) or survived (with no ill-effects), why most of the survivors are women or why there is enough canned food, arable land, breeding stock (read: a few good and a few not so good men) and potable water to ensure that the survivors will be able to eke out more than mere subsistence.

The only real problem, aside from all of those pesky dead bodies, is that the babies of all species are born horribly deformed (missing limbs, two or more heads — you know the drill). The deformities suggest some sort of radiation effect, but since no survivor has radiation poisoning, the actual cause remains a mystery.

The story of survival, at least as told by Vic, the wonder dyke, is neither interesting or particularly enlightening. The ending is completely lacking in credibility, and serves to exacerbate the weakness of all that came before it. I recommend that you pass on *The Year Seven*.

— Deborah Peifer

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Love-Hate Relationship

Eating Our Hearts Out: Personal Accounts of Women's Relationship to Food
 Edited by Leslea Newman; Crossing Press, \$12.95

by Deborah Peifer

A true story — the setting is an academic conference for women; the time several years ago; the hot topic under discussion: What defines a person as a woman? The hot topic is made hotter, more grounded in the real rather than the abstract by the presence of a post-operative MTF transsexual whom I will call Jamie.

The discussion goes on for days and well into many nights. A friend of mine tells me about a breakfast she shared with Jamie: "She ordered cereal, and the waiter said it came with heavy cream or skimmed milk. Jamie asked for heavy cream. That was when I knew that a woman, is a person who has been defined as female by culture, that the TS's claim of being a woman in a man's

Women are starving themselves in order to be loved, or to be lovable.

body was impossible, because the culture doing the socializing would react to the body that was presented. A being in a male body would be socialized as male, and no amount of surgery could undo that socialization or provide the requisite female socialization that would make the man a woman. ... No American woman," she explained,

"could ever casually order heavy cream for her cereal. She'd have to do it in secret, or apologize for it, or berate herself for her weakness."

Women and food. What is it about women and food? *Eating Our Hearts Out* is an extraordinary collection of personal narratives written by women who discuss the myriad ways that food is a battleground or a savior or an enemy or a weapon. Food is love or hate or passion. Food is mothers putting their newborns on fat-free diets, so that now there is an epidemic among middle-class babies in this country called "failure to thrive," a disease caused by a culture that teaches women that fat is the most unforgivable sin.

More Vulnerable

Why are women more vul-



nerable to the dysfunction around food? Maybe because, as Patricia Washburn writes in "Losing It" "on the most basic level, women are food." Or perhaps because the popular culture insists that you (women) can never be too thin. Women have eating disorders — anorexia, bulimia, dieting — all designed to maintain an abnormally low body weight. Women are starving themselves in order to be loved, or to be lovable, and the essays in this collection reveal the depths of self-

loathing that are behind much of the fetishism of food and fat.

The stories are not all bleak, however; humor is liberally scattered throughout, as in this observation by Elizabeth Alexander: "My mother ... proclaimed in 1972, 'It's not hard to lose weight. You just eat no sugar, no carbohydrates, and half of everything else.' At which proclamation, my little brother made himself useful for the first time in his life. 'But there is nothing else,' he said."

Leslea Newman edits with a sure hand, and the ordering of the pieces, clustered around various subtopics (chocolate, of course, is a subtopic all its own), is powerful. Women and food — wherever you are on the food continuum, you will find much to think about in these heart-rending essays. Women and food — there is much more to say, to think, to feel about this topic, but Newman and the women in *Eating Our Hearts Out* have made an important beginning. ▼

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JUNE 18
Gay Youth Educational video aimed at breaking homophobic attitudes. 9:30pm.

A Kind of Family Documentary of an unusual foster family with a troubled kid and a gay man. 10:10pm.

Out: Saatchi & Saatchi/Heavy Petting/Crimes of Passion/Alfalfa Advertising gays, pets and queers, lesbian detectives, and a dictionary of queer lives. 11:10pm.

JUNE 19
Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit Film version of Jeanette Winterson's book about a woman being denounced by her mother and congregation for falling in love with another woman. 8pm (also 6/21, midnight, 6/22 midnight, 6/21 12:55am).

In the Wings: Angels in America on Broadway Behind-the-scenes look at Tony Kushner's Tony-winning epic gay political show. 11pm.

JUNE 20
Radio Crazz: The Seattle Men's Chorus/USO musical review, emceed by Miss Liberty Bonz. 2pm.

Holly Near Concert special with pianist John Buacchino. 3:30pm.

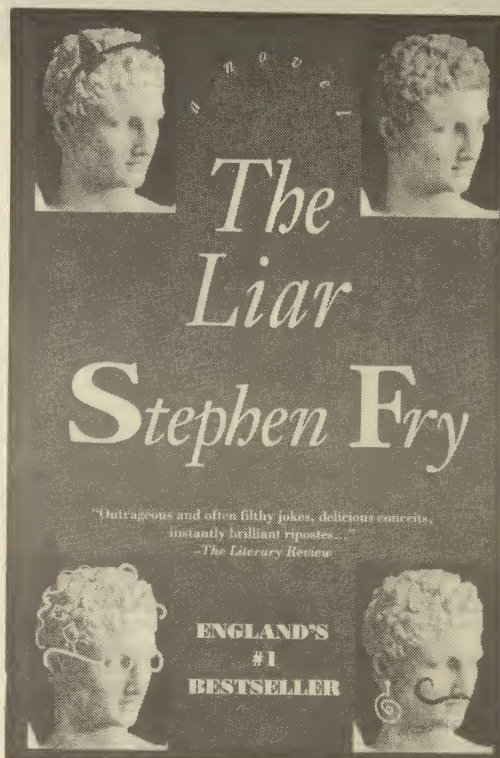
Lost Language of Cranes British film based on David Leavitt's coming out novel. 10pm.

JUNE 23
Armistead Maupin Is a Man I Dreamt Up Documentary about the author of *Tales of the City*. 9pm.

Greetings From Out Here Ellen Spiro's video travels through gay Southern life. 10pm.

Coming of Age Documentary of 200 California teens confronting race and gender issues. 11pm.

Books



An Artful Dodger

The Liar
by Stephen Fry; Soho, \$22

This book was a No. 1 best-seller in England, and small wonder. *The Liar* combines intramural sex in British public schools, the life of a rent boy in London, and a genuinely fascinating thriller in one seamless package.

Adrian Healey is the inveterate title character for whom deception is first nature, and like any good Cambridge fellow with a taste for deceit, he ends up playing the spy game — or is it playing him? Healey even writes a magnificently forged gay Dickens novel, *Peter Flowerbuck*, the authenticity of which would be apparent to anybody who stopped to transpose the F and the B in the title.

Stephen Fry is best known to homophile Anglophiles as an actor in PBS' *Jeeves and Wooster* and for his bisexual role in Kenneth Branagh's film *Peter's Friends*. Unlike Rupert Everett, another British actor of unknown sexuality who turned his hand to writing, Fry can write very well. This book is quite amusing, as the English might say when reaching for their highest compliment, and though Fry's musings on truth and deception could have easily flattened this soufflé, they are folded in quite skillfully. While the spy aspect is at first confusing, coming as it does in italicized bits sandwiched between the chapters, all becomes clear at the end, and no doubt (with all those naughty gay bits taken out) the book will soon make an excellent Hollywood picture.

"Not one word of the following is true," Fry prefaces the book. Which, in a story about a liar, can only make us wonder just how Fry knows so much about turning tricks in Piccadilly Circus. — *Orland Outland*

Sex You Up

This year's film festival will be featuring the first annual Gay Men's Safe Sex Video Awards at 9:30 p.m., June 24, at the Castro Theatre. Co-sponsored by Falcon Studios and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the awards presentation will feature clips from both professional and amateur erotic videos as part of the competition.

San Francisco comedian Mark Davis hosts this Academy Award-style presentation of work that promises to be both raunchy and informative. All film and videomakers

were required to adhere to guidelines that prohibited high-risk sexual behavior; they were also required to distribute up-to-date HIV risk reduction information to their actors. And, in case you wondered, lighting, make up, and hairstyling assistance was also provided by Falcon Studios.

Glossy, gritty, gratuitous sex scenes should be the norm in this most unusual film festival offering. Only \$6 gets you in the door, and if you think the cast members won't be in the audience, think again. ▼

Books



The Other Side of Midnight

The Other Side
by Nan Goldin; Scalo, \$39.95

"This is a book about beauty." So Nan Goldin prefaces her book of drag queen portraits. But it's not, exactly. There are few photos that any diva would care to use in her publicity kit; in most of them, the performers are getting ready to perform or languishing at the bar while waiting to go on stage. Goldin captures her subjects in between personas — no longer wearing their acceptable male faces, but not yet incandescently artificial and "glamorous." Sometimes, in fact, Goldin seems to be unaware of her own agenda, which may be less about capturing beauty than about capturing the artful (and sometimes artless) moments when her queens are still in chrysalis, trying to decide what the mask will be tonight, or catching them when that mask drops for a second.

There's no Diane Arbus tone here, no parade of freaks who don't know they are freaks, but she is trying to catch her subjects out in their vulnerable moments. Still, there is a voyeuristic aspect to watching the dramatic transformation from man to woman, watching these queens in their private ablutions. In fact, a sequence at the end, with one queen and her strapping, handsome boyfriend, seems out of place in the book. It's like a political statement, "proof" that these men aren't destined to loneliness and unhappiness, but it ends up feeling more like those precious Jeff Koons/Illona Ciccolini poses from Koons' *Made in Heaven* show. It's not required — for these creatures, no apology is necessary. — *Orland Outland*



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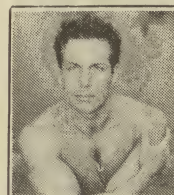
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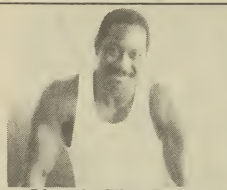
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\$40/HR. \$55/1 1/2 HR.
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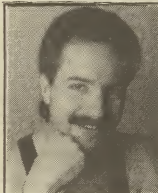
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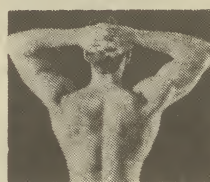
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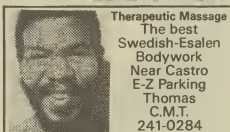
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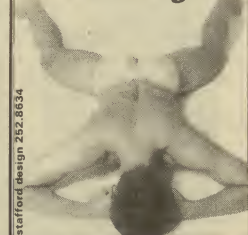
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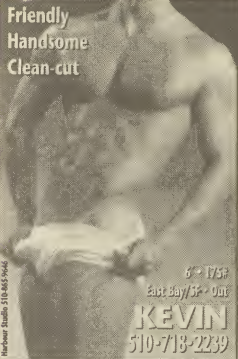


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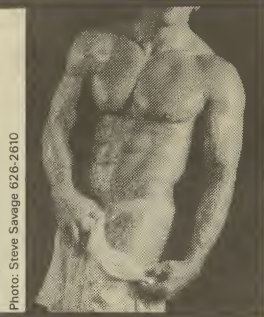


Photo: Steve Savage 626-2610

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STRONG, SOLID & SEXY
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HONEST, THICK, UNCUT 9"
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Horse-Hung 6'4", Blond
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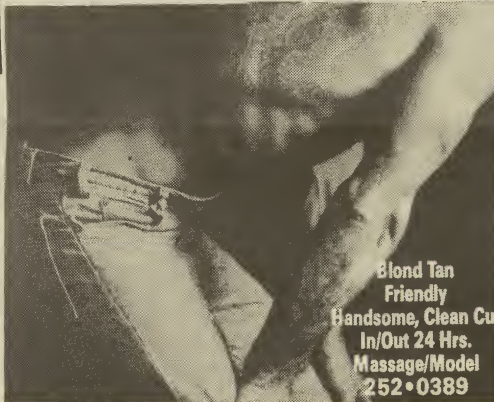
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Steve Savage Photo: 626-2610 Photo design: 252-8834



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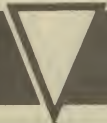
gdlkg, hairy, 8 1/2" verbal
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ULTIMATE EROTIC MASSAGE
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sexy body

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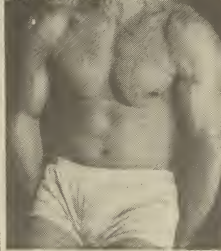
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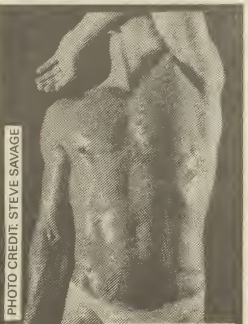
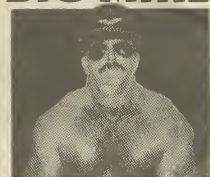


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INCREDIBLY GOOD LOOKING
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DUNGEON FANTASIES

YOUNG, HUNG TOP

(415) 267-3969 • MATT



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6 ft., 210 lbs.

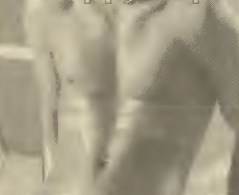
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Delivers Excellent

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#1, #1 #1 #1

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TURN YOU ON?

EXOTIC YOUNG TOP

ITALIAN HARDBODY

READY TO PLAY! VERY

HOT! NICHOLAS IN/OUT

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HOT!
"9"

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100. + UP

★ Get A Load Of This ★

Sexy, Handsome, & Hung

BLACK TOP

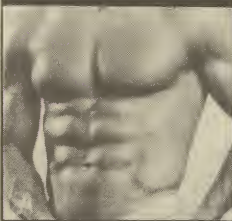
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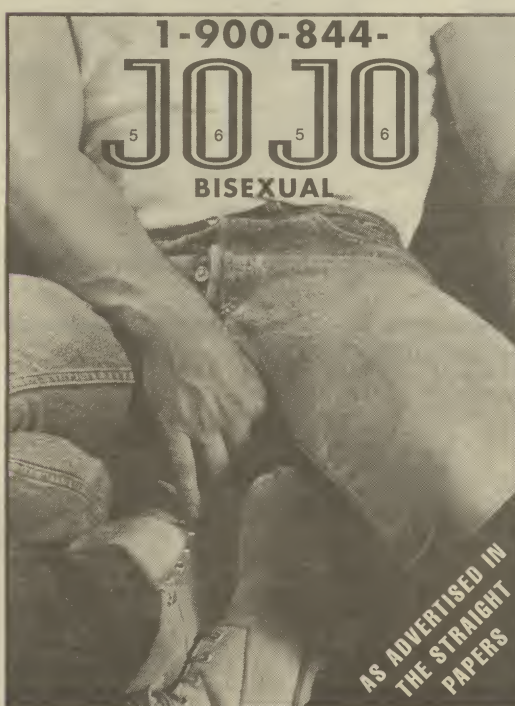
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